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THE TIMES

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Dozens feared dead or injured as more patrol boats are hit

US launches new attacks on Libyans

● US warplanes are presumed to have inflicted heavy casualties in further attacks on Libyan patrol boats and an anti-aircraft site on the mainland

● The Soviet Union warned the US that the clash with Libya was a breach of international law and could escalate into a wider conflict

● Libya, calling on support from its Arab allies, threatened to turn the Mediterranean into a "sea of blood"

● Legal experts in London said the law was on Washington's side in the dispute over the Gulf of Sirte

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

United States warplanes and ships struck a Libyan anti-aircraft site again yesterday in escalating fighting in and around the disputed waters off the Libyan coast. At least two more Libyan missile patrol boats were destroyed, bringing the total to four, almost certainly resulting in dozens of deaths and injuries.

Two A-7 Corsair light bombers from the US aircraft carrier Saratoga, attacked radar equipment guiding Soviet-built SA-5 missiles at Sirte on the Libyan coast, the Pentagon said. The radars were replacements for another radar system that was knocked out in the first American air strike on Monday, according to Mr Casper Weinberger the Defence Secretary.

The US had no immediate damage assessment, but Mr Weinberger said he expected Libya to continue replacing destroyed radar parts with Soviet-shipped stocks. He added that a fifth missile-armed patrol boat may have been severely damaged.

A senior Pentagon source said that although the military exercises that began off Libya on Saturday night were due to end on April 1, the ships may withdraw as early as tomorrow. Mr Weinberger hinted that manoeuvres may end earlier, saying that "the exact

time of completion is up to the fleet commander and the usual practice is to end sooner".

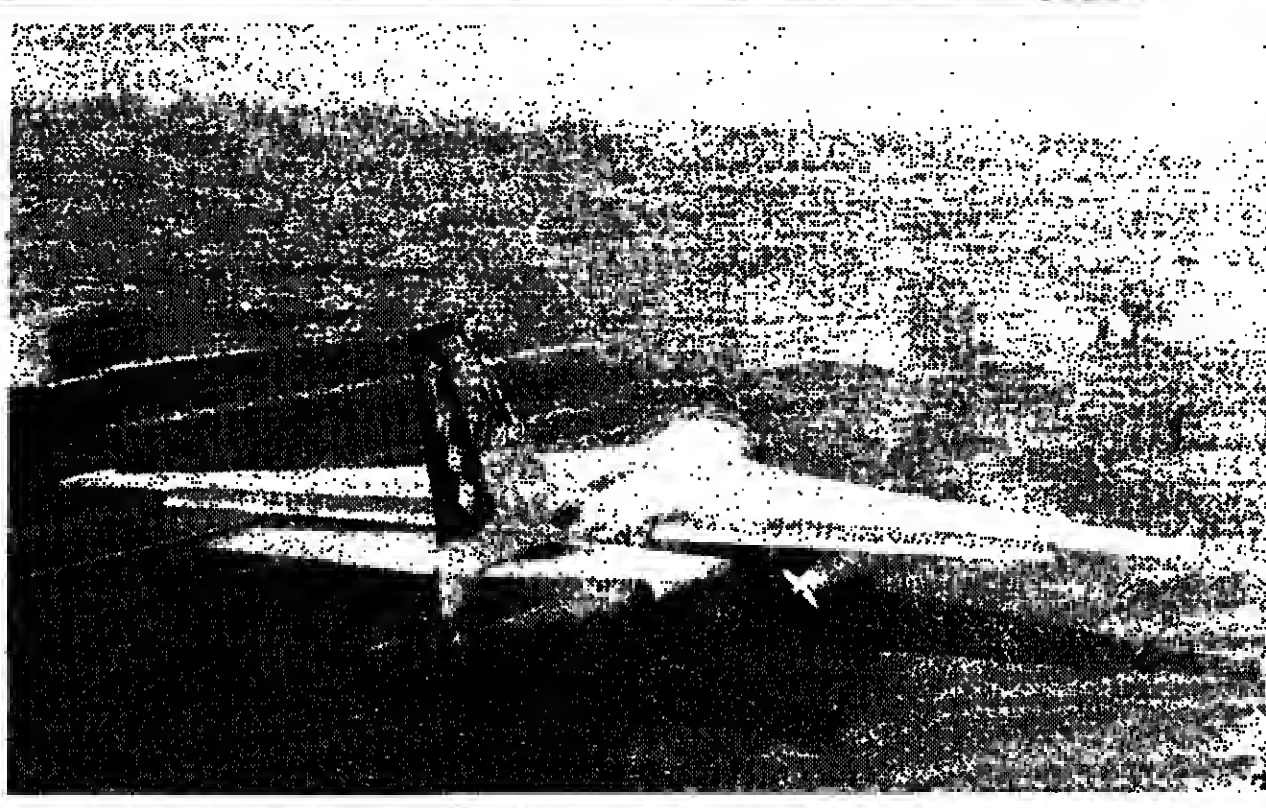
Some Administration officials suggested yesterday that Libya had fired more missiles at American planes during the day in addition to the six launched on Monday. But Mr Weinberger said the situation was confused.

Some missiles, not SA-5s, may have been fired from other sites, perhaps including an SA-2 from a site around the coastal town of Benghazi.

Later the Pentagon said that no Libyan forces had opened fire yesterday. Between six and 12 anti-aircraft missiles had been fired on Monday at US forces.

Asked why the US had attacked other Libyan patrol boats yesterday, the Pentagon spokesman said: "We have been given ample evidence of hostile intent both by missiles and surface ship movements in the past two days and we are going to protect ourselves."

No American casualties or damages have been reported since fighting broke out. Two



An American jet fighter prepares to take off during the exercises in the Gulf of Sirte which led to the clashes with Libya.

Kremlin's fear of escalating conflict

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Soviet Union yesterday delivered a strong warning that the US military conflict with Libya was a breach of international law and a provocation which could escalate into a conflict extending beyond the Mediterranean and threaten world stability.

In a Kremlin display of solidarity with Colonel Gaddafi, Mr Vladimir Lomeiko, the chief Foreign Ministry spokesman, told a special press conference that it was the duty of all peace-loving states "to take steps to support the sovereign Libyan state". But he stopped short of pledging immediate military aid to Tripoli.

Moscow's next moves would depend on "the subsequent steps to be taken by the US Administration".

When pressed by Western correspondents, Mr Lomeiko refused to say whether any Soviet personnel had been wounded in the US attacks.

There was speculation among East European diplomats that President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria, who arrived here for a scheduled visit yesterday, delivered a personal message from Colonel Gaddafi to Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, whom he met in the Kremlin last night.

The diplomatic sources said President Chadli had been in telephone contact with Tripoli before his departure.

Continued on page 16, col 4

Thatcher rebuttal of shares claim delights Tories

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Cheered on by her backbenchers, the Prime Minister yesterday denounced as scandalous, scurrilous and outrageous the allegations in a Sunday newspaper that she had dealt in shares in an Australian company.

In the Commons at Question Time, Mrs Thatcher, in her most combative mood, declared that she had scrupulously observed the long-standing conventions governing the holding of shares by ministers.

She said: "Under these conventions there is nothing which requires me, on assuming office, to dispose of my shares nor to transfer them into the name of a trust or investment managers."

After repudiating on Monday night the central allegation of *The Mail on Sunday* report that she had dealt in her own name in shares in Broken Hill Proprietary, Mrs Thatcher decided to take head-on the opposition's criticism of her disclosure that it was not until last year that she transferred the shares to a firm of investment managers to administer them on her behalf.

MPs had asked why she did not set up a trust immediately on becoming Prime Minister, which has been the practice with other ministers.

The verdict of her backbench supporters last night was that she had successfully and satisfactorily dealt with the issue. It was noted by MPs that neither Mr Neil

Shares in record £5.5 bn plunge

By David Smith and Richard Thomson

Shares lost £5.5 billion on the Stock Exchange yesterday in the biggest ever fall in share values as hopes of an early cut in base rates receded and the Libyan clashes provoked heavy selling. The pound fell 2.8 cents to \$1.4615, but held up against other currencies in spite of oil price weakness.

The sterling index, measured against a basket of currencies, closed 0.5 points down at 75.4.

The failure of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to agree on output restrictions to stabilize world oil prices continued to affect financial markets in London.

Money market interest rates edged up yesterday morning as the pound opened two cents down against a stronger dollar.

The stock market's response was a wave of selling which produced a 32 point fall in the Financial Times 30-share index by lunchtime. Prices later steadied, but the index ended 29.9 points down at 1,364.7.

Three of the big four clearing banks, meanwhile, announced cuts of between 0.75 and 1 per cent on their mortgage rates. Barclays and Midland announced reductions of 0.75 per cent bringing their home loan rate down to 12.25 per cent from April 1. National Westminster cut its rate by a full percentage point to 12 per cent for new borrowers from today and for existing borrowers from May 1.

Report, page 19

Royal wedding with tradition

By Alan Hamilton

Prince Andrew and Miss Sarah Ferguson are to be married by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, in Westminster Abbey on Wednesday, July 23, Buckingham Palace announced yesterday.

The date, only four months away, has been squeezed into an already crowded royal schedule, and fulfils the couple's wish that the wedding should take place in the summer — to get it over with. MPs yesterday asked the Government to declare the day a public holiday.

Although no further details of the wedding have yet been announced — except that it will begin at 11.30am — it is certain to be a public spectacle, with live television coverage and crowds lining the processional route.

The British Tourist Authority said yesterday that, while the wedding was unlikely to have any marked effect on the number of foreign visitors to Britain this year, the long-term effect of worldwide television coverage would be beneficial to the tourist industry, worth more than £6 billion a year.

Westminster Abbey is a return to tradition for royal weddings after the choice of St Paul's by the Prince of Wales because of its greater capacity. The Queen, the Queen Mother, Princess Margaret, Princess Alexandra and Princess Anne were all married there.

The first recorded royal wedding in the Abbey was that of King Henry I to Matilda of Scotland in 1100. Prince Andrew's will be the fourteenth.

Although not favoured for weddings until recent times, the Abbey has witnessed 37 coronations since William the Conqueror took the English crown there in 1066, and is the last resting place of 18 kings and 14 queens.

Finding a suitable day proved difficult. The Queen already has an engagement on July 23, attending an afternoon tea party at St James's Palace in aid of the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund.

The Palace said yesterday that it would have to be changed, probably postponed, but they presumed that the hosts "would not mind in the circumstances".

The Queen is also due to hold investitures on the preceding and following days, and to visit the England against New Zealand test match on the Friday. That weekend she is due to take up a week's residence at Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh. In the absence of firm information, speculation will now intensify on the details of the wedding.

Continued on page 2, col 3

Arabs urged to hit US embassies

By Robert Fisk

More sober reckoning was no doubt, made in Tripoli during the morning, when Mr Abdul-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Vice-President, arrived from Damascus. Officially, he came to convey President Assad's support for Libya in its stand against what the Syrian Baath Party paper called "flagrant American provocation and aggression".

In his meeting with Mr Abdul-Salam Jalloud, Colonel Gaddafi's deputy, however, Mr Khaddam is understood to have questioned his opposite number closely about just how far Libya was prepared to go in its military confrontation with the Americans.

More attention is likely to be paid to a statement emanating from the Palestine National Salvation Front, representing six Syrian-supported Palestinian groups in Damascus, which said that it "will take necessary measures to deter the US by attacking every single American target or interest in the Middle East."

In all the rhetoric about assailing US interests, no mention was made of Occidental Petroleum, an American company which is reported to have resumed lifting crude oil in Libya.

Colonel Gaddafi himself said little during the day, apart from promising that Libya's "brave confrontation" would continue and that "the Jamahiriya (Libya) is not only defending itself at this moment, but the entire Arab nation and its future."

DPP orders inquiry on Glenholmes warrants

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Director of Public Prosecutions yesterday ordered a disciplinary inquiry into the handling of the extradition warrants for the IRA bombing suspect, Evelyn Glenholmes, which were found to be flawed.

The inquiry, unprecedented in the history of the DPP's office, was announced after attacks from MPs, who accused the officials there of "slppy incompetence" and "a disgraceful botch-up".

It will be held under normal Civil Service regulations and is expected to be headed by the deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr John Wood.

The DPP himself, Sir Thomas Hetherington, QC, would not be involved because if the inquiry led to disciplinary proceedings, it would be for him as the department head to decide on the findings of any tribunal.

Miss Glenholmes, aged 27, was arrested on March 12, in connection with a series of IRA bombings, including the murder of two people in the Chelsea barracks bomb attack, the murder of the bomb disposal expert, Kenneth Howorth, and the Brighton hotel bombing in October 1984.

Dublin police yesterday received another eight new warrants for the extradition of Glenholmes, which were later being examined by Irish lawyers to establish they were not also defective.

Extradition ruling, page 2

Lords ban GLC's final fling

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The ban on Greater London Council plans to give £40 million to the Inner London Education Authority as part of its £76 million final fling won the backing of the House of Lords yesterday.

Five Law Lords led by Lord Brandon rejected an attempt by the council to overturn last week's Court of Appeal ruling that the spending was unlawful.

But they have yet to consider plans to give £36 million to voluntary groups to keep them going after the GLC is abolished on Monday.

The hearing continues today.

Jobs for the boys, page 2
Leading article, page 13



Share in the cost of caring

MHA already houses and cares for nearly 1400 elderly people in residential Homes and Sheltered Housing schemes in the UK. Now the planned building programme calls for a costly and sustained effort to achieve the target of more than 2000 places by the early 1990s.

Every pound you give now will mean some elderly person being cared for all the sooner — Will you help?

Please give now and also remember us in your will. Some £2 million is needed every year to provide new MHA Sheltered Housing as well as extra places in our residential Homes — that's £1 every 15 seconds.

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THE TIMES

The Times will publish on Good Friday, the only quality national daily newspaper to do so. This has been made possible by the lifting of restrictive practices following the move to Wapping. More copies than usual will be printed, but the demand will be substantial, so readers are urged to place a firm order for The Times with their newsgagents now. An order form appears on page 2

The Times Portfolio competition weekly prize of £20,000 can be won on Good Friday rather than Saturday. This is because the Stock Exchange will be closed on Friday and there will be no daily prize on Saturday. Portfolio will resume next Tuesday

Portfolio

Yesterday's prize in The Times Portfolio competition — doubled to £4,000 because there was no winner the previous day — was shared by three readers: Mr S. S. Hensley, of Cambridge; Mr Stuart Donaldson, of Edinburgh; and Mr George Eve, of Orpington, Kent. Portfolio list page 24; how to play, information service, page 16.

Court ruling

A High Court judge clamped down on procedures for expelling 12 Liverpool Militant supporters

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Fleet Street changes

Redundancies at Telegraph

By Gavin Bell

The Daily Telegraph and the Sunday Telegraph are planning substantial redundancies in printing staff when they move out of Fleet Street in an attempt to eliminate heavy trading losses, Mr Andrew Knight, the company's chief executive announced last night.

Mr Knight could not specify how many would be made redundant by the move, which could be before the end of the year, until the plans had been fully discussed with trade union representatives.

The printing would be transferred to a new plant in West Ferry Road, east London, and to an existing one in Manchester. The editorial, administration and advertisement departments would be in a new

building expected to be in central London.

It was hoped that printing could begin in East London by September-October.

Mr Knight stressed that the company would continue to recognize the traditional printing trade unions and hoped they would accept what he termed attractive voluntary redundancy terms.

"This is not a sabbat-rattling exercise, it is grounded in financial reality," he said. "When we start printing in West Ferry Road we have to have a company which is able to trade at a profit. We have to compete with our competitors in terms of cost and flexibility. We do not expect that our unions will want us to compete at a disadvantage."

Management sources said

The Telegraph financial position had not improved since it reported a £16 million half year loss last December.

As a first step two wholly owned subsidiary companies called West Ferry Printing and Trafford Park Printing have already been created. Mr Knight said the new companies would be seeking contract work in addition to printing both Telegraph newspapers. They would use web-offset technology with a capacity to produce colour for advertising and special events.

The Telegraph newspapers currently employ about 3,300 people in London and Manchester. Management sources said the initial redundancies would affect only printing staff.

TUC talks, page 2

A-level changes could benefit more students

A reform in A level grading which could give sixth-formers a fairer chance of getting a university place was announced yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

The change — to take effect from summer 1987 — will affect those who are currently awarded a grade C. At present there is a very narrow range of marks between a grade B and a grade D at A level, and this can make all the difference to whether or not a candidate gains a university place.

In some subjects, such as English literature, the range of marks in a grade C can be as small as three percentage points. That is because grade C is awarded in the hump of a normal distribution curve so that a lot of people are hunched over a few marks.

In answer to a parliamentary question yesterday, Sir Keith said that the range of marks between a grade B and a grade N, the new fail grade, and the former grade O, should be divided into three equal intervals and assigned to grades C, D and E, with the same interval also being assigned to grade N.

The reforms were recommended by the Secondary Examinations Council and have been implemented after consultation. The problem of the short mark range of grade C was first highlighted by the Joint Matriculation Examination Board in Manchester.

Examination confusion, page 3

City watchdog 'given teeth' as Government suffers defeat

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

The Government suffered its second significant defeat on the Financial Services Bill yesterday, reflecting doubts about government assurances on City fraud and the ability of the Director of Public Prosecutions to tackle it.

A Conservative amendment, backed by opposition MPs on the Bill's committee, was carried by 11 votes to 7, to give the proposed new City watchdog, the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), power to launch prosecutions.

Mr Anthony Nelson, Conservative MP for Chichester, said last night that having "unleashed the tiger" by putting the board on to a full legislative footing in a previous revolt on March 6, the rebels had now "taken the muzzle off the tiger".

He said: "It has now got the teeth which it needs. The second defeat makes it more difficult for Mr Michael Howard, Under Secretary for Trade and Industry, to carry out his threat to delete reference to the SIB from the Bill when it returns to the Commons for its report stage."

The Bill had restricted prosecuting initiatives to the Sec-

retary of State for Trade and Industry and the DPP, and Mr Howard resisted the new amendment in committee yesterday.

But another of the Conservative rebels, Mr Timothy Yeo, MP for Suffolk South, said: "In the light of recent events, the idea that we can rely on prosecutors who are employed by the Government seems to me to be unwise."

"There has been great concern about the Lloyd's scandals and we cannot face a repetition of those kinds of shortcomings."

The failure of the DPP's office to secure the extradition of Miss Evelyn Glenholmes and its inability to bring some Lloyd's agents to court has clearly upset Conservative MPs.

Mr Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, and a member of the committee, said: "We have decided to get tough with the fraudsters."

The other Conservative rebels who voted against the government were Mr Timothy Smith, MP for Beconsfield, and Mr Robert McCrindle, MP for Brentwood and Ongar.

Stormy times for French

In 1066 William, Duke of Normandy, and his invasion fleet were pined against the Normandy coast for several weeks, held up by stormy weather.

Ironically, 920 years later stormy weather yesterday prevented a French delegation from sailing from the port of Cherbourg in France, to Portsmouth for the Domesday 900 pageant parade through the streets of Winchester today.

"All the ferries had been cancelled," Mr Mike Hughes a spokesman for the Domesday exhibition said.

"Perhaps it has something to do with the recent sightings of Halley's Comet," he said. The comet was also seen before the Norman invasion.

The Mayor of Bayeux was due to join the Mayor of Winchester, Mrs Jean Freeman, in today's colourful procession to the thirteenth century Great Hall.

The procession will go ahead with flag of the City of Bayeux, and the standard of William the Conqueror, and Mr David Cowan, Winchester City chief executive, will take the place of the Mayor of Bayeux.

The Domesday 900 exhibition, sponsored jointly by *The Sunday Times*, Hampshire county council and Winchester city council will run throughout the summer, closing on November 1.

Staff cut threat to hospitals

More than 400 beds will have to close in the Bloomsbury health authority district in London and 1,800 staff will lose their jobs if the North East Thames regional health authority adheres to its spending plans for the next seven years, a consultative document from Bloomsbury said yesterday.

The bed cuts would amount to a 20 per cent reduction, badly affecting smaller hospitals and the teaching centres at University College Hospital and the Middlesex Hospital, and spending would have to be reduced by £28 million from the present £118 million a year.

Even if the authority's preferred plan was adopted, £18 million will have to be cut from the budget.

Oxfordshire District Health Authority decided yesterday to defer for a month any decisions on a £1.7 million package of cuts, which would "involve wholesale reductions in services", pending discussions with Mr Barney Hayhoe, the Minister for Health.

Stroller dies

Stroller the pony who, partnered by Mrs Marion Mould, won a silver medal in the 1968 Mexico Olympics and five gold medals at Hickstead, has died, aged 36, of a heart attack.

Spain writes to Luce over Goya dispute

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, has received a letter from the Spanish government about Goya's masterpiece "The Marquessa de Santa Cruz", he has disclosed in a Commons written answer.

The Spanish government has claimed that the picture was forged and its export illegal under Spanish law. Spain is trying to secure the return of the painting, due to be auctioned at Christie's on April 11.

Mr Luce said that he was considering the letter, but he could not comment on the case, which may be the subject of a court action.

Yesterday, legal advisers to Christie's and Lord Wimborne, who owns the painting, were considering whether to appeal against a High Court ruling that the British courts were competent to decide whether the Spanish export documents were forged.

Christie's and Lord Wimborne have argued that the matter is outside British jurisdiction.

Holland to return one IRA terrorist

A court in Amsterdam ruled yesterday that only one of the two convicted IRA terrorists arrested in the city last January could be extradited to the United Kingdom.

The court ruled that Brendan McFarlane, aged 34, could be extradited because the act for which he was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1976, a bomb attack on a public house in Belfast which killed five people, could not "in reason" be considered as a means to achieving IRA political ends.

In the case of Gerard Kelly, aged 30, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1973 for two bomb attacks in London, the court ruled that those acts were not at the time grounds for extradition under British law.

On the charges of murder and attempted murder against Kelly, the court ruled that the British authorities had supplied insufficient evidence.

The court also ruled that a number of other charges made against Kelly, which would normally lead to extradition, could in his case be construed as being of a political nature.

Both men were serving life sentences in the Maze Prison, Belfast, when they escaped during a mass break-out in 1983.

McFarlane's lawyer immediately appealed against the court's decision to allow his extradition, while the public prosecutor has appealed against the decision not to allow the extradition of Kelly.

New Glenholmes warrants studied

Senior law officers in the Irish Republic yesterday started to study nine new warrants seeking the extradition of Evelyn Glenholmes, the terrorist suspect (Richard Ford writes).

The set of warrants were sent to Dublin to replace those found invalid in a district court, and will be passed to the Garda once the authorities are satisfied they are in order. Until then, the police will not begin a renewed hunt for Miss Glenholmes, aged 29, who has been in hiding since she was driven from the court last Saturday afternoon.

Loyalist attack on Thatcher

The prospect of Unionist leaders re-opening talks with the Prime Minister was virtually ended yesterday as hardline loyalists denounced her refusal to suspend the Anglo-Irish agreement.

Mr Margaret Thatcher coupled a robust defence of the deal with a declaration that the Government was anxious for consultation rather than confrontation, and was prepared to participate in a conference aimed at reaching agreement on devolved government for the province.

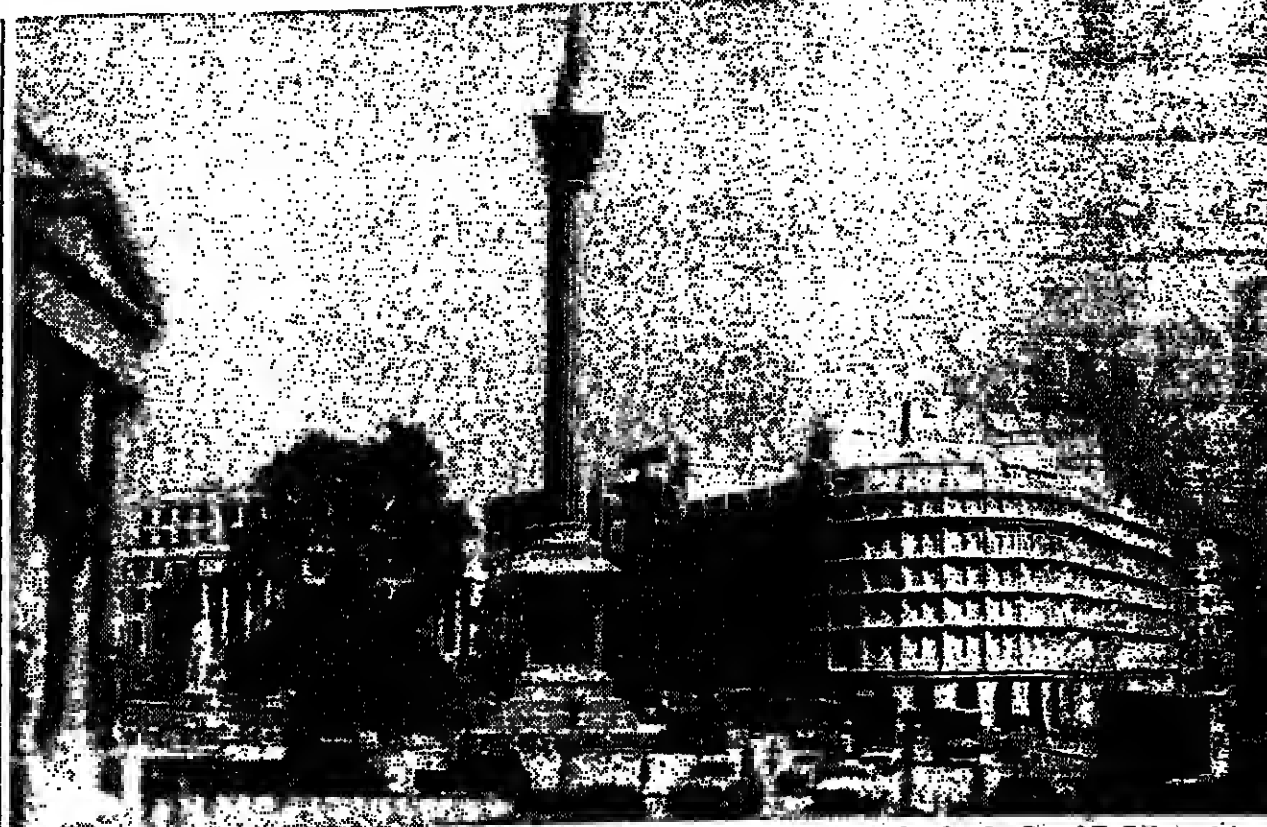
In a three-page letter sent to the unionist leaders, which was released by the Democratic Unionist Party, the Prime Minister rejected unionist allegations that the agreement represented joint authority and threatened the union.

Mrs Thatcher also rejected their request for talks on the basis that the deal is suspended, but added that the Government was ready to approach its workings in a "sensitive manner".

Both Mr Molyneux, leader of the Official Unionists, and the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the DUP, expressed disappointment at the letter and are expected to consult with their colleagues before drafting a reply.

But Mr Paisley went further and accused the Prime Minister of having "worsened the situation by 'slamming the door' on unionists while in an advance of formal parliamentary confirmation of the breakdown of General Motors' negotiations with British Leyland, Mrs Thatcher told MPs: "May I make it absolutely clear we are concerned that there should be a prosperous industry with good prospects for the future of the people who work in it."

Her praise for the Vickers buy-out, a political decision taken in the middle of the BL affair, came after Mr Cecil Franks, Conservative MP for Barrow and Furness, had pointed out that 81 per cent of the workforce had applied for shares.



A model of the design (on right of picture, as seen from the west) chosen yesterday for the Grand Buildings site.

Winning design preserves old lines

The competition to design a £30 million redevelopment of the Grand Buildings site at the south-east corner of Trafalgar Square, has been won by Mr Paul Gibson of Stiebel Gibson Partnership, London.

The design is, externally, a replica of the present building, originally the Grand Hotel. The new building will give 300,000 sq ft of modern offices around a central atrium, and two storeys of arched shops around its base facing the Square, the Strand and Northumberland Avenue. It is expected to be finished by 1990.

Professor William Whitfield, chairman of the assessors, said yesterday that the scheme, one of three in a final list from which Land Securities, the developers, had chosen the eventual winner, fitted well with the square and surrounding streets.

The two runners-up were Mr David Allford of YRM Partnership, and Caroline Miller and James Utting.

There were 287 entries for the competition, announced three years ago.

Mr Gibson said that the new building would be the same height and mass as the present one.

By Charles Knevit, Architecture Correspondent

Most of the others have transferred to successor bodies which continue under post-abolition arrangements, such as the new London Fire and Civil Defence Authority, and the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA).

Appointments to the latter

have been controversial, particularly in the public relations field. Miss Nina Clarke, Mr Livingstone's former personal assistant and public relations adviser, has transferred to do the same job for Mrs Frances Morrell, the left-wing leader of the ILEA.

Mr Bill Bush, Mr Livingstone's former political adviser, has also moved to the ILEA.

Most staff leaving are taking the GLC's favourable early retirement package.

Leading article, page 13

GLC abolition Jobs for Livingstone aides

By Colin Hughes, Local Government Correspondent

Fewer than 500 staff out of 21,500 employed by the Greater London Council will be made "involuntarily redundant" when the council is abolished next Monday, according to last-minute predictions by the Government's Staff Commission.

Few of those will include the politically controversial appointments which have been a prime target of the GLC's critics, over the past five years of Mr Ken Livingstone's regime.

The only group of political appointees at serious risk are the team of Outreach workers, taken on to work with local groups on GLC campaigns. They have acted in effect, as paid agents of the ruling Labour group's policy.

The Labour group's plan for "forward funding", which was blocked last week by the Court of Appeal, and is due for hearing by the Lords tomorrow, would create an umbrella organisation to fund trade union campaigns.

The aim was to fund Outreach staff posts through the umbrella group, but even if the GLC wins its appeal in the Lords, staff in the grants section will have only a few working hours to sign cheques and send them out. The

chances of forward funding successfully are now small.

Some staff have been taken on by nine of the most left-wing Association of London Authorities' boroughs, who are paying out £1 million each to support a research centre.

Most of the others have transferred to successor bodies which continue under post-abolition arrangements, such as the new London Fire and Civil Defence Authority, and the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA).

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Most staff leaving are taking the GLC's favourable early retirement package.

Leading article, page 13

Groups face rundown

Several hundred London voluntary groups face rundown and closure because they will get no more money after the GLC is abolished.

Although many cater for minority interests, those already refused support by boroughs and other bodies taking over GLC responsibilities include four law centres, in Southall, Hillingdon, Paddington, and Notting Dale, the Woodcraft Folk, tenants and residents' associations in Paddington and Bromley, and several child care centres.

The London Voluntary Ser-

vice Council said yesterday that its records showed 76 groups had so far been refused funding. Another 110 had been refused transitional aid, 280 groups were uncertain of their fate.

The GLC's budget this year provided £82 million for grants to voluntary organizations. From next week that figure will be cut to £51 million: £22 million from the London Boroughs Grants Scheme, £16 million in transitional funding, £5 million from London Regional Transport, and £8 million from the Arts Council.

There was a risk that Northway would become "an arid and ugly suburb of north Bristol", he said.

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The acceptance is the first under a new scheme announced last year, whereby support to tenants is provided for the action by funds from the Public Expenditure Reserve. The papers include personal, State and political documents collected by the Dukes of Portland and Newcastle. Most are already in the possession of the British Library.

South Bank set for facelift

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Visitors to London's South Bank arts complex can expect to see the creation of gardens, staff uniforms and decorations designed to "turn concrete into colour" after the abolition of the Greater London Council at midnight on Monday.

The South Bank Board, which will run the complex's buildings, including the Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Festival halls, has ambitious plans to turn today's dismal facade into a new and

lively environment by pulling down walkways, hiding the dirty concrete facings, and making the area more open.

Most of the ideas depend upon long-term finance from the private sector, which the board is trying to attract.

But there will be gradual minor changes on Monday, beginning with new flags and uniforms for the complex.

The board has dropped plans to launch its new era with a party because of practical difficulties and the possibility of offending political opponents of the GLC's abolition. Its new private security staff will be patrolling the complex immediately it is handed over.

The changeover will be marked by a joint celebration on May 3 which will also herald the 35th anniversary of the Festival Hall.

The programming of the South Bank music halls will continue as planned for the next two years along the lines arranged by the GLC.

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Worker buy-outs are praised by Thatcher

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

The management buy-out of Land Rover became the political favourite in the Commons yesterday, after the Prime Minister had praised the Vickers buy-out as "popular capitalism at work".

In advance of formal parliamentary confirmation of the breakdown of General Motors' negotiations with British Leyland, Mrs Thatcher told MPs: "May I make it absolutely clear we are concerned that there should be a prosperous industry with good prospects for the future of the people who work in it."

Her praise for the Vickers buy-out, a political decision taken in the middle of the BL affair, came after Mr Cecil Franks, Conservative MP for Barrow and Furness, had pointed out that 81 per cent of the workforce had applied for shares.

MPs have also picked up the point made about the privatization of nationalized firms in the last Conservative manifesto - "As before, we will offer shares to all those who work in them."

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, told the House that General Motors had demanded effective control of Land Rover from the outset, "and an assurance of full ownership and control within a relatively short period".

He said that GM had been unwilling to compromise on that point.

The reaction from Conservative backbenchers divided between severe criticism of Labour's attack on the talks, to undisguised delight that the management buy-out was now back in the running.

TUC asked to arrange further print talks

By Michael Horsnell

News International yesterday asked the TUC to arrange further negotiations with the print unions over the newspaper group's move to Wapping, east London.

The company wants a third round of talks after Easter, having evaluated exploratory discussions with the unions representing 6,000 workers dismissed after going on strike last January.

An application by Sogat '82 against the inclusion of branch funds in the sequestration order which has deprived it of its £17 million assets will be heard in the Court of Appeal today.

A Sogat member who stole more than 300 copies of *The Sun* and *The Times* was fined £200 at Highbury Magistrates Court yesterday. Robert Clements, aged 41, of

MacAuley Close, Larkfield, Kent, pleaded guilty.

Peter Lake, a printer, aged 43, accused of assaulting Peter Stephenson, causing actual bodily harm, and stealing a key belonging to News East TMT Ltd at East Smithfield, Stoney, was committed on conditional bail to Southwark Crown Court for trial.

Mr Lake, of Singlewell Road, Gravesend, Kent, was told at Thames Magistrates Court not to go within a mile of the Wapping plant.

Oliver Duke, a journalist, appeared at the same court accused of inciting a group of demonstrators outside the Wapping plant to commit actual bodily harm. Mr Duke, aged 34, of North View Road, Hornsey, was remanded on bail until April 22.

Couple choose a royal marriage with tradition

Continued from page 1

Favourites to be Miss Ferguson's maids of honour must be her sister, Mrs Jane Makin, who lives in Australia, and her former flatmate in Battersea, Miss Carolyn Beckwith-Smith, who herself due to be married soon.

The strongest contender for best man is Prince Edward, who acted as joint best man, or supporter, with Prince Andrew at Prince Charles' wedding. Precedent suggests that the

Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, will officiate. The guest list will include a galaxy of foreign royalty and dignitaries.

Correct protocol will almost certainly ensure that an invitation is extended to Mr Hector Barrantes, Miss Ferguson's stepfather, in spite of the possibility of diplomatic discomfort over his being an Argentinian and, therefore, unwelcome on the polo fields

of Britain since the Falklands war.

Again judging by precedent, Prince Andrew will set out for his wedding from Buckingham Palace in an open coach - given fair weather - and his procession will follow a route down The Mall, Horse Guards Arch, Whitehall and Parliament Square to the Abbey.

Like the Princess of Wales, Miss Ferguson is likely to set out from Clarence House, home of the Queen Mother, in

the same glass coach, and join The Mall to follow the same route.

The ceremonies are likely to be seen on television worldwide. The marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales attracted one of the biggest international audiences ever, and even that of Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips.

The yacht is scheduled for a refit next year to replace some of her wooden decking, but will be free after the wedding.

The vessel will next be required for the Queen's funeral in October, when it will take her from Shanghai to Hong Kong.

couple are likely to choose the security and privacy of the royal yacht Britannia, as did the Prince and Princess of Wales, and Princess Anne and Captain Phillips.

The yacht is scheduled for a refit next year to replace some of her wooden decking, but will be free after the wedding.

The vessel will next be required for the Queen's funeral in October, when it will take her from Shanghai to Hong Kong.

Caution to Labour on Militant action

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

A High Court judge clamped down yesterday on the procedures under which Labour's national executive will hear expulsion charges today against 12 Liverpool Militant supporters.

The Vice-Chancellor, Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, ruled that it would be unfair and contrary to the rules of natural justice if verdicts were reached on the basis of evidence given in confidence to an eight-strong executive inquiry team, and that it would be wrong for the team to take part in today's proceedings.

Mr Lestré Whitty, the Labour Party's general secretary, said afterwards that there was enough evidence against the 12 to go ahead with the hearing.

It was also thought that the exclusion of the eight executive members who had heard the evidence in Liverpool would make no difference to the verdicts reached, although it could narrow the majorities for expulsion of Mr Derek Hutton, the deputy council leader, and his 11 comrades.

Giving judgment, the Vice-Chancellor said that the case turned on whether the procedures proposed for adoption by the NEC did, or did not, offend principles of natural justice.

The most important was the apparent threat to use evidence given in confidence to the inquiry team, as evidence against the 12 individuals.

"There is an overwhelming public interest in ensuring that decisions are not made affecting the livelihood of an individual without the procedure being fair," he said.

The judge said: "I have real sympathy with the Labour Party in the circumstances in which they find themselves. It flows from the fact that they have chosen to conduct an inquiry on the basis of confidential information given to some members of the NEC."

As to witnesses whom the 12 wished to call, there was no absolute right to call witnesses for hearing of a domestic tribunal. The matter was within the control of the NEC.

The judge ordered the NEC to pay half of the 12 plaintiffs' costs.

Call to abolish council

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Avon County Council should be abolished along with the Greater London Council next week, Mr Richard Correll, Conservative MEP for Bristol and Bath, said yesterday.

He was speaking at the launch of a campaign by local conservation groups to stop the council allowing more than 10,000 homes to be built in fields and villages to the north of Bristol.

"The county council now exists in order to continue its own existence", Mr Correll said. He added that the Bristol-based council, on which Labour has just lost control, employs more people than the institution of the EEC.

"There would be dancing in the streets if the council went."

Mr Correll predicted that the commercial centres of Bristol and Bath would die if the housing plan went ahead.

Mr Gerald Harford, local chairman of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said local job prospects did not justify nearly so much building.

There was a risk that Northway would become "an arid and ugly suburb of north Bristol", he said.

Foreign policy papers given in lieu of tax

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Government has accepted a valuable collection of private and State documents covering British foreign policy from the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries for an undisclosed sum in lieu of tax.

The ownership of the papers was not disclosed by Mr Richard Luce, the Minister for the Arts, when he announced the deal in a Commons written reply yesterday.

The acceptance is the first under a new scheme announced last year, whereby support to tenants is provided for the action by funds from the Public Expenditure Reserve. The papers include personal, State and political documents collected by the Dukes of Portland and Newcastle. Most are already in the possession of the British Library.

Museum flood investigation

Sir George Young, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, told the Commons yesterday that in consultation with Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, he had ordered an independent investigation into the recent flooding at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

N-plant rebuff

Sellafield workers have cancelled a meeting with the environmental group Greenpeace due to take place next week when campaigners opposed to the nuclear plant and an anti-Sellafield cruise in the Irish Sea.

Man's Hour

Terry Jones, a former member of the *Monty Python* cast, will present *Women's Hour* on BBC Radio on April Fool's Day, the first time it has been presented by a man.

Correction

A report in *The Times* (March 17) of the conviction at the Central Criminal Court of John Dinsdale, Bernard Horsfield and James Blacow for corruption mis-stated two of the sentences imposed. Horsfield was sentenced to 18 months, of which six were to be served, and Blacow to 12 months, of which four were to be served.

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Woman abandoned by lover must lose her home, court rules

A householder, abandoned by her lover, yesterday lost a legal fight to prevent a finance company taking possession of her home under a mortgage agreement described by a judge as "extortionate".

However, the Court of Appeal referred the case to the Director General of Fair Trading to consider whether to take action against the company, Castle Phillips Finance.

Miss Irene O'Connor had claimed that the transaction - a short-term loan carrying interest at an annual rate of 48 per cent - should be set aside because she did not understand it and because she was unduly influenced by the man with whom she lived, who has since left her.

Two judges dismissed her claims and upheld a county court ruling that Castle Phillips is entitled to take possession and sell her home, 109 Cowper Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, valued at more than £22,000.

Lord Justice Dillon said

that he was troubled by his "prima facie view that the credit bargain was extortionate". That point had not been taken by Miss O'Connor and it would not be appropriate to send the case back to Luton County Court for it to be argued, he said.

The judge, sitting with Mrs Justice Booth, added: "It is of public importance that those licensed under the Consumer Credit Act 1974 should not enter into extortionate bargains or engage in deceitful, oppressive or unfair business practices."

He directed that the papers, with a copy of the court's judgement, should be sent to the Director General of Fair Trading.

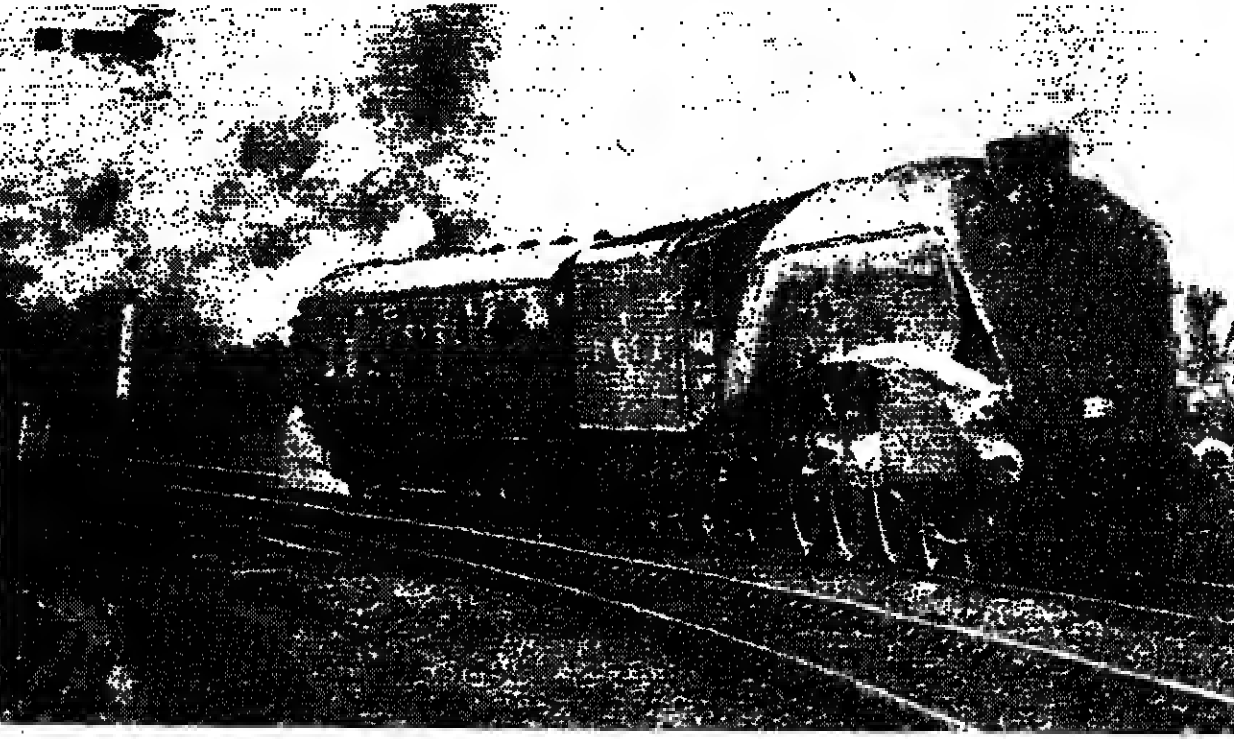
Miss O'Connor and Mr George Williams, her lover since 1969 and the father of her child, borrowed £11,000 from Castle Phillips in November, 1984, to pay off a £3,700 building society mortgage, with which they were in arrears, and leave them with a capital sum.

The judge said that they had been introduced to the company through two other companies, Melkay Finance, of Luton, and Sovereign Finance, of Southampton. Out of the £11,000, the couple had to pay a £1,120 "fee" to Sovereign, £880 "interest in advance", and other charges.

The balance of nearly £3,000 was banked by Mr Williams in his own account. Four months later he left Miss O'Connor and, within days, had married another woman.

The judge said: "One can suspect that, although this was, of course, unknown to the company, Mr Williams's plan in his own mind was to raise capital which he could use as a deposit on another house, whenever it suited him to throw over Miss O'Connor and their child."

Full steam ahead for record-breaker



Mallard, the steam engine which reached a speed of 126mph in 1938, back on the tracks again yesterday for the first time in 23 years.

The locomotive, which made the record-breaking run between Grantham and Peterborough, was paying a courtesy visit to Scarborough, where the council has contributed £35,000 towards the cost of a nine-month restoration project and to help keep the engine on the tracks. It is expected to haul "steam specials" from June this year.

From Scarborough, the locomotive went on to British Rail's works at Doncaster, where it was built, for the finishing touches including a new coat of "garter blue" paint.

Mallard was designed by Sir Nigel Gresley for the London and North Eastern Railway's services between London and Edinburgh. It was in service until 1963, and has been kept in the National Railway Museum at York since 1975.

GCSE 'shambles' warning to Joseph

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The new GCSE examination for 16-year-olds would be a shambles and a disaster if the Government insisted on introducing it on schedule and without employing extra teachers, the leader of the second biggest teaching union said yesterday.

Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, called on Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, to postpone its introduction. He said that otherwise the exam would go the way of the CSE in which the bulk of courses end with a conventional exam.

Mr Smithies said that without extra staff, teachers might work inadequately, refuse to co-operate with the GCSE, or take on a lot of extra work.

He was replying to a letter from Sir Keith which accepted that there were real concerns about the training programme.

At the union's annual conference next week in Scarborough will be a motion calling on the 127,000 members to take no part in the development of the new exam unless the timetable is extended, adequate resources are provided for training, and appropriate fees are agreed for exams and assessment.

The Government's recent injection of £20 million for books and equipment for the new exam, and £200,000 for training, on top of an original £10 million, was inadequate, he said.

Midwife sues over hospital transfer

A midwife was placed under special supervision and moved from an experimental scheme, in which she was caring for expectant mothers throughout their pregnancy, when her superiors found she had been visiting her patients at home. It was alleged at an industrial tribunal yesterday.

Miss Wendy Pearce, aged 31, was also formally reprimanded after complaints about two cases.

Miss Pearce, a midwife at St George's Hospital, Tooting, is claiming constructive dismissal from Wandsworth Health Authority.

Mrs Lynette Murray, Wandsworth Director of Nursing Services, told the tribunal that the decision to transfer Miss Pearce from the "Know Your Midwife" scheme had not been a punishment.

Miss Pearce had been transferred to the labour ward and offered extra training under supervision. Mrs Murray said: "If you feel a midwife has problems a transfer is arranged. It is designed to help them and stop them going down the wrong track."

Mrs Murray denied she reacted angrily when she discovered midwives had been visiting expectant mothers at home.

She said she initially suspended Miss Pearce from duty after a patient complained she had been "very distressed" after being told not to rush into hospital but to remain at home and have a bath when she was in labour.

Miss Pearce had also dealt, without calling a doctor, with symptoms of foetal distress in which a baby's heart rate dropped, the tribunal was told. Mrs Murray said: "The midwives deal with the normal and the medical staff deal with the abnormal."

The hearing continues.

Sentencing guide issued to courts

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Magistrates and judges were given a new weapon yesterday against discrepancies between sentences imposed by different courts.

The aim, according to a Home Office handbook on treatment of offenders, is not to secure uniformity of sentence but uniformity of approach.

"Much will always depend on the particular circumstances of the individual offender and the individual offence," it adds.

The National Association of Probation Officers, Mr Gerald Birmingham, Labour MP for St Helens South, and Lord Hunt, former chairman of the Parole Board, are among those who have expressed concern at wide discrepancies between penalties. The Automobile Association disclosed big differences in 3,000 court cases involving its members.

The new guidance is expected to make courts less dependent on their sentencing traditions, regarded as one of the main reasons for differences in approach, and the advice of the clerk.

The handbook, which is being distributed to 26,000 magistrates, judges and clerks, says that imprisonment should be the penalty for serious offences; for others there has to be a good reason for not imposing other options. If a prison sentence is inevitable, it should be as short as is consistent with the need to punish.

It adds that jail is not "in any way a 'treatment' for criminality, and a prison sentence should not be imposed with rehabilitative aims in mind."

Deterrence also carries little weight. "It would be wrong to impose a custodial sentence in a case where that severe a penalty was not warranted by the crime in question, merely in the hope of achieving a deterrent or a reformative effect," it says.

The handbook says that it is contrary to established sentencing principles to substitute a custodial sentence for a fine "simply because the offender lacks means".

The Sentences of the Court (Stationery Office, £3.50).

Heathrow curbs foreseen

By Michael Bailly, Transport Editor

Restrictions on domestic flights to Heathrow in the late 1980s to halt worsening overcrowding at the world's busiest international airport is foreseen in a Civil Aviation Authority report to the Government.

Charter flights to Gatwick could also be restricted later, and business, freight, and possibly international passenger flights to Heathrow unless the airlines are able to stop the rise in flights.

The CAA is clearly concerned to move traffic from overcrowded Heathrow and Gatwick to Stansted in the 1990s, though no airline will be directed from one to the other.

Recommended steps include:

● Restrictions on general, business, taxi, and all-freight flights at Heathrow and Gatwick.

● Restrictions on new domestic routes at Heathrow.

● Possible removal from Heathrow of lightly-used feeder routes such as Carlisle and Dundee, Inverness, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Plymouth and Newquay, and Jersey.

● Limits on the number of daily flights on domestic routes to Heathrow, except where competitive forces make this impracticable such as shuttle routes to Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Belfast.

● Possible restriction on the number of daily flights on international routes to Heathrow.

● Possible reduction of charter flights from Gatwick to make room for more scheduled services.

In another air development, a £50 million-a-year expansion plan was announced by British Caledonian yesterday in an effort to catch up with British Airways on international routes.

The airline plans to acquire two more Boeing 747 jets this summer and to open services to Japan, China and Italy.

B-Cal claims that its new routes are in line with the Government's competition policy, but they still require permission from foreign governments and will be strongly opposed by BA.

Chandler and Flear still lead in chess

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

With only two rounds to play in the GLC Chess Challenge at London's Great Eastern Hotel, the Leicester international master Glenn Flear and the British grandmaster Murray Chandler still lead with 7½ points.

Flear, by drawing his game against Nigel Short, made his first leg of the grandmaster title. Chandler adjourned against the former world champion Boris Spassky in a long and difficult endgame, but managed to draw.

Mr Chandler's opponent, Flear, the 17-year-old Polish-born player, who is playing for the Leicester Chess Club, is a strong contender for the title.

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The Good Curry Guide 1986/87, edited by Pat Chapman, (Piatkus Books, £3.95, also available at same price from The Curry Club, PO Box 7, Haslemere, Surrey, GU27 1EP).



The Prince of Wales showing his injured finger in London yesterday, which he said was hanging on by a thread after he struck it with a mallet at his Highgrove home on Saturday.

US fighters for Libya plan 'was just a joke'

A businessman maintained at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that he was joking when he spoke about the supply of American F16 fighter jets to Libya.

Mr Godfrey Shiner, aged 48, of Napton on the Hill, Warwickshire, agreed that he spoke about planes while on his motor cruiser in Malta.

"But it was said jokingly, there is no doubt about it," he told the jury.

Mr Shiner, who is in business supplying oilfield equipment to Libya, denies conspiring to pervert the course of justice by arranging for Mr Mohammed Shebli, aged 43, a Libyan, to be flown

out of Britain in 1984 and evade a drugs trial.

A second businessman, Mr Anthony Gill, aged 50, of Farmfield Road, Great Tey, Colchester, has admitted taking part in the plot. Giving evidence for the prosecution, he accused Mr Shiner of suggesting the flight during a meeting on board his boat in July 1984.

Mr Gill said that Mr Shiner spoke about the supply of F16s to Colonel Gaddafi's regime. Mr Shiner said he gave Mr Shebli's name as a business contact in Britain.

The hearing continues today.

Curry tops league for eating out

By Robin Young

Curry is Britain's most popular dining-out food, and the best curry in Britain is served at the Bombay Brasserie in Kensington, according to the second edition of The Good Curry Guide, published tomorrow.

The book, edited by Mr Pat Chapman, the founder of a curry enthusiasts' club that claims 8,000 members, lists more than 700 recommended curry restaurants in Britain.

They're nearly 4,000 Indian curry houses alone, but the

book also lists Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri-Lankan, Burmese, Nepalese, Thai, Singaporean, Malay and Caribbean establishments.

The restaurants are as diverse as the spices with which they carry their clients' favour. At the Rajpooth Tandoori in Durham, a full lunch is £1.65, while in trendy Islington the Sonar Goan prices its kash, a whole young lamb stuffed with Basmati rice which will serve up to 25, at £400.

In Stroud Green, north London, the Beewees offers

"amazing home-made rum punch" to wash down West Indian goat curry and crab chutney.

Mr Chapman claims recent surveys prove that Indian-style food has overtaken Chinese in popularity. Indian restaurants, he calculates, are still opening at the rate of 400 a year, but less than 15 per cent are operated by Indians.

The Good Curry Guide 1986/87, edited by Pat Chapman, (Piatkus Books, £3.95, also available at same price from The Curry Club, PO Box 7, Haslemere, Surrey, GU27 1EP).

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Bicycles, Bicycles and tandems go free in 1986 on all crossings.

Free caravans. From July 11th to August 31st, caravans and trailers up to 5.5 metres cross free on afternoon sailings, with big reductions on many others.

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Early sailing savings. Catch one of our morning crossings between July 11th and August 31st and it will cost less than last year.

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SEALINK BRITISH FERRIES

WERE FLEETS AHEAD.

PARLIAMENT MARCH 25 1986 Why BL deal failed • Thatcher's shares • British Gas sale

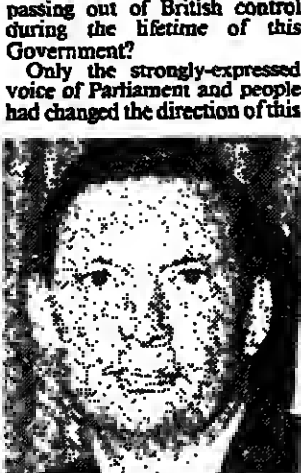
GM plan for Leyland not in the national interest

INDUSTRY Despite the fact that General Motors proposals for Leyland Trucks, Freight Rover and Land Rover were commercially acceptable to the board of BL, the agreement was not acceptable to the Government in the national interest.

sion spokesman on trade and industry, said: Mr Channon has announced the collapse of a venture ill-conceived in purpose, anti-British in its effect, and handled with almost unbelievable incompetence.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, said GM had a legitimate grievance in that when the take-over of the whole lot was first proposed by Mr Tebbit in mid-1984 there were no such conditions.

edge what he says. Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove C) in the light of the Opposition crowing in their isolationist joy, turning away from investment in our much needed commercial vehicle industry, what discussions had been had with GM about keeping the design and development of commercial vehicles in this country?



Channon: GM not able to compromise

The Government would go on with the established plans for Leyland Trucks. He hoped the BL board would be considering all the options available and would make recommendations to him which the Government would consider in the normal way.

He promised no decisions would be taken before the House returned after the Easter recess.

In his statement, Mr Channon said that British Leyland and the Government had been in discussions with several companies about the privatization of the main Land Rover-Leyland businesses.

Mr Channon said it was always made clear that they wanted to get adequate assurances before they would ever be prepared to sell Land Rover to GM.

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US exercise defended

LIBYA The Americans had every right to operate in international waters and airspace when they were attacked.

described as dangerous and destabilising. He said: I understand that the Foreign Office is not making a statement today on the incident in the Gulf of Sidra yesterday.

Are any additional precautions being advised to UK citizens in Libya in the wake of yesterday's incidents?

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, asked during question time for her opinion on America's actions which he

Can she tell me what view her Government expressed to the British Government?

Mrs Thatcher: He is referring to the Gulf of Sidra. May I make it clear that the US ships and aircraft were operating in international waters and airspace and they have every right to do so.

Walker's high hopes for privatized gas

GAS BILL The Gas Bill would create a major industrial, manufacturing and distributive concern which could have a role at home and abroad.

Neither consumers nor employees had felt great benefit from the assets of British Gas, but both would now have direct participation in the industry.

This was the most major shift from public to private sector in the country or perhaps in any country.

Mr Walker said the Government wanted the new gas consumers' council to be a more effective organisation. Over the years the present council had involved in committees and the passing of paper.

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Thatcher dismisses shares allegation

PM's QUESTIONS The Prime Minister replied to what she described as scurrilous and scandalous allegations about her shares outside the Commons.

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Value for money the criterion

SHIPBUILDING It was important that the tender for oil replenishment vessels for the Royal Fleet Auxiliary should go to the firm offering the best value for money.

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Minister urged not to weaken Bill

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£143m drive on motorway and trunk road repairs

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor An increase in motorway repairs to counter a deterioration in the nation's roads was announced by the Government yesterday.

Mr Peter Bottomley, Minister for Roads and Traffic at the Department of Transport, disclosed.

He also said that this year's target of maintenance for 70 miles of motorway will be reached comfortably, and that for 100 miles of trunk roads exceeded by nearly 50 per cent.

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The rate of interest on Deposit Cheque accounts, subject to the basic rate of tax, will remain unchanged.

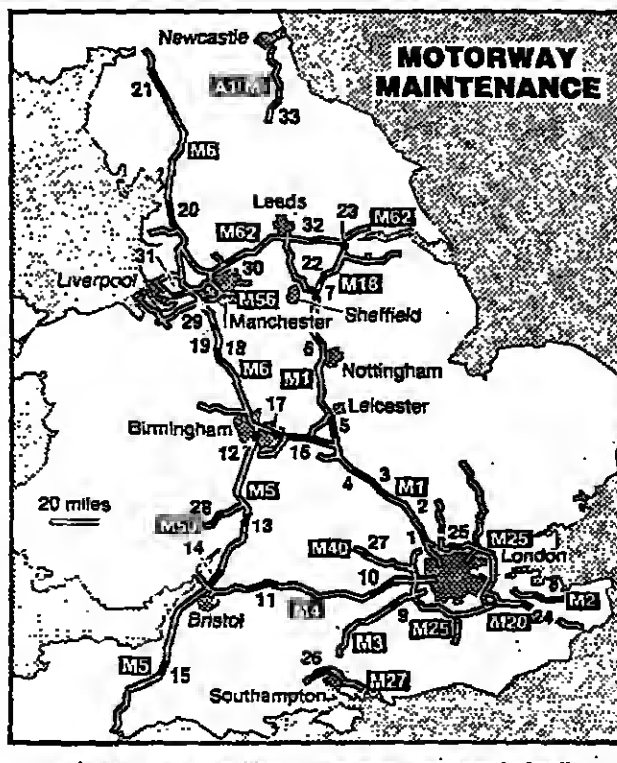


Table with columns for Motorway Number, Start Date, End Date, and Mileage. Includes routes like M1, M2, M3, M4, M5, M6, M7, M8, M9, M10, M11, M12, M13, M14, M15, M16, M17, M18, M19, M20, M21, M22, M23, M24, M25, M26, M27, M28, M29, M30, M31, M32, M33, M34, M35, M36, M37, M38, M39, M40, M41, M42, M43, M44, M45, M46, M47, M48, M49, M50, M51, M52, M53, M54, M55, M56, M57, M58, M59, M60, M61, M62, M63, M64, M65, M66, M67, M68, M69, M70, M71, M72, M73, M74, M75, M76, M77, M78, M79, M80, M81, M82, M83, M84, M85, M86, M87, M88, M89, M90, M91, M92, M93, M94, M95, M96, M97, M98, M99, M100.

Tribute to Stanley fetches £102,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent The diamond-encrusted gold box presented by Queen Victoria to Henry Morton Stanley, the journalist-explorer, after he found Dr Livingstone on the shores of Lake Tanganyika in 1871, was sold for £102,000 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000) at Christie's yesterday.

his grandson, made £188,751 with all 26 lots finding a buyer. A portrait miniature of Queen Victoria framed in diamonds, which she presented to Stanley in 1890, was sold for £102,000 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000) at Christie's yesterday.

The morning sale made a total of £319,194, a record for a medals auction, with less than 1 per cent unsold.

The Gallantry Medal presented by the Queen in 1974 to the policeman who rescued Princess Anne from an ambush in the Mall, secured £2,376 (estimate £1,300 to £1,400).

It had been sold by Det Constable Peter Edmunds some years ago when he was short of money. It was bought last year by his brother-in-law, Mr M.A. Argyle, of Bideford, Devon.

BBC film unfair to mink hunt

A BBC film about otters gave a misleading impression and was unfair to a mink hunt, the Broadcasting Complaints Commission found yesterday.

The Three Counties Mink Hunt had complained about Operation Otter, broadcast last April. Mr Ian Coghill, the joint master, said the film gave the impression that the hunt posed a continuing threat to otters.

The BBC claimed that the programme reported factually the problems of releasing otters into the wild. It did not accept that the programme implied the hunt had killed or was prepared to risk killing otters.

The commission said that the programme was unfair in giving the impression that it had been, or was likely to be, responsible for killing or harming otters.

Science report

Poincare's puzzle is solved at last

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor A puzzle that has eluded some of the greatest mathematical minds of the past 80 years has been solved.

Topology is concerned with the geometrical factors of an object which remain unchanged when it undergoes continuous deformation, or stretching or twisting without tearing or breaking.

They have solved a tortuous puzzle, in a branch of three-dimensional geometry known as topology, known as Poincare's Conjecture, after the Frenchman who was regarded at the beginning of this century as the world's greatest mathematician.

Flashpoint Libya • Law on Reagan's side • Unease in the region • How crisis escalated

Legal experts back US over claim to the Gulf of Sirte

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Washington's claim that the US Sixth Fleet, in carrying out exercises in the Gulf of Sirte, was within international waters is well supported by international law, according to experts. There is no legal basis for Libya's insistence that the whole of the gulf forms part of Libya's territorial waters.

Under the 1958 convention a nation can claim as its territorial waters any bays that are less than 24 miles wide between the low-water marks at the natural entrance points. The Gulf of Sirte is 275 miles wide and cannot therefore be accepted as being part of Libya's territorial waters.

Although warships are permitted the right of "innocent passage" through a nation's territorial waters, they are not allowed to carry out exercises or manoeuvres. The US recently upheld its right to innocent passage in the Black Sea by sending warships to within six miles of the Soviet Union's coastline.

Why fleet crossed the 'line of death'

From Christopher Thomas Washington

US naval ships or warplanes have crossed Colonel Gaddafi's "line of death" seven times since 1981 to demonstrate that all the Gulf of Sirte, outside Libya's 12-mile territorial limit, is in international waters.

Libya first announced in 1973 that it considered all the gulf to be part of its territorial waters. Colonel Gaddafi's "line of death", extending roughly from the city of Misrata on the western shore of the gulf to Benghazi on the east, was declared in December 1985. It takes in all 150,000 square miles of the gulf.

The US has rejected Libya's claim from the outset, although it has only been militarily challenged since President Reagan took office in January 1981. Colonel Gaddafi has maintained his "line of death" from 1973, even though he adopted the name only three months ago.

In January of this year the US Sixth Fleet held exercises near the gulf. Colonel Gaddafi boarded an armed Libyan patrol boat and sailed into the gulf to stage what he called a "confrontation". But there were no military exchanges.

However, there have been clashes periodically since 1981. The dispute escalated sharply in August 1981 when two US Navy F14 fighters shot down two Libyan SU22 fighters over the gulf, 60 miles off the Libyan coast, after being fired on by one of the Libyan planes.

The Reagan Administration has adopted a global approach to its policy of keeping international waters open to free passage. Recently two American warships went into the Black Sea and appeared within six miles of the Soviet coast to demonstrate the right of "innocent passage" under international law, even in waters inside the 12-mile limit.

Britons on alert for backlash

By Gavin Bell

The US-Libyan confrontation has had no immediate effect on an estimated 5,000 British subjects living in Libya, but British businessmen are watching closely for any adverse repercussions on their interests there and elsewhere in the Arab world.

Mr Hugh Dunsachie, the Consul in Tripoli, advised London yesterday that he had nothing unusual to report, a Foreign Office spokesman said. No new advice had been issued to expatriates, and standing evacuation procedures were not under active consideration, he added.

British Caledonian, the only British airline that flies to Libya, said its services had not been affected and one of its three-weekly flights left Tripoli on schedule yesterday.

About half of the 10,000-strong British community in Libya left the country after Britain broke diplomatic relations in April 1984 when a policeman was killed by a gunman in the Libyan People's Bureau in London.

Since then diplomatic representation has been limited to an "interest section" at the Italian Embassy in the Libyan capital.

The last reliable statistics, published in 1983, showed that about 100 British companies were then operating in Libya, principally in civil engineering, construction, computer, telecommunications, petroleum and chemicals.

Industry sources said some of them had since pulled out, but accurate figures were not available.

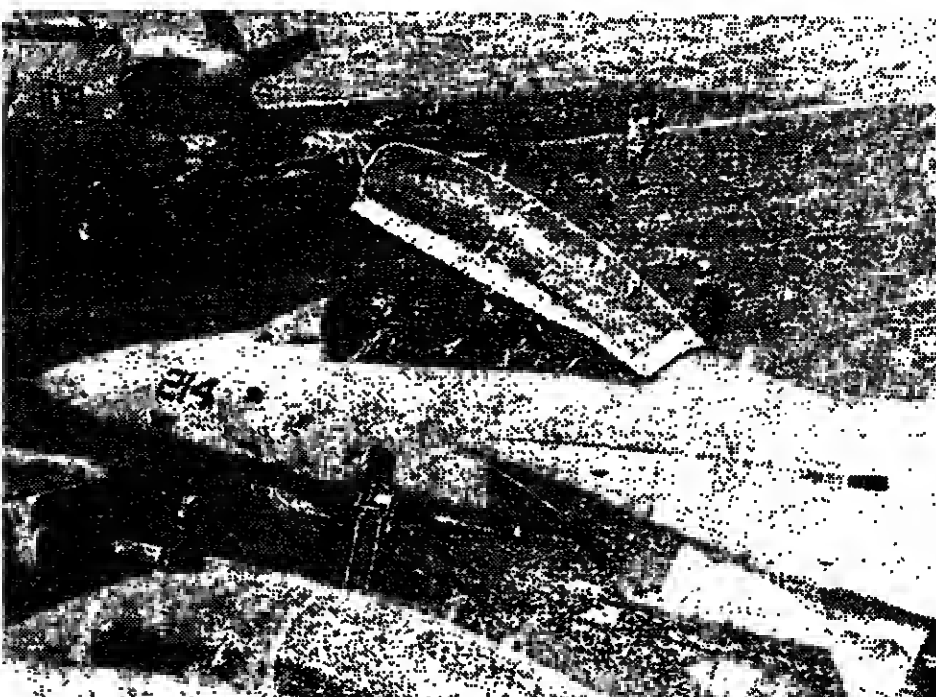
Foreign contractors will be hit first

By David Young Energy Correspondent

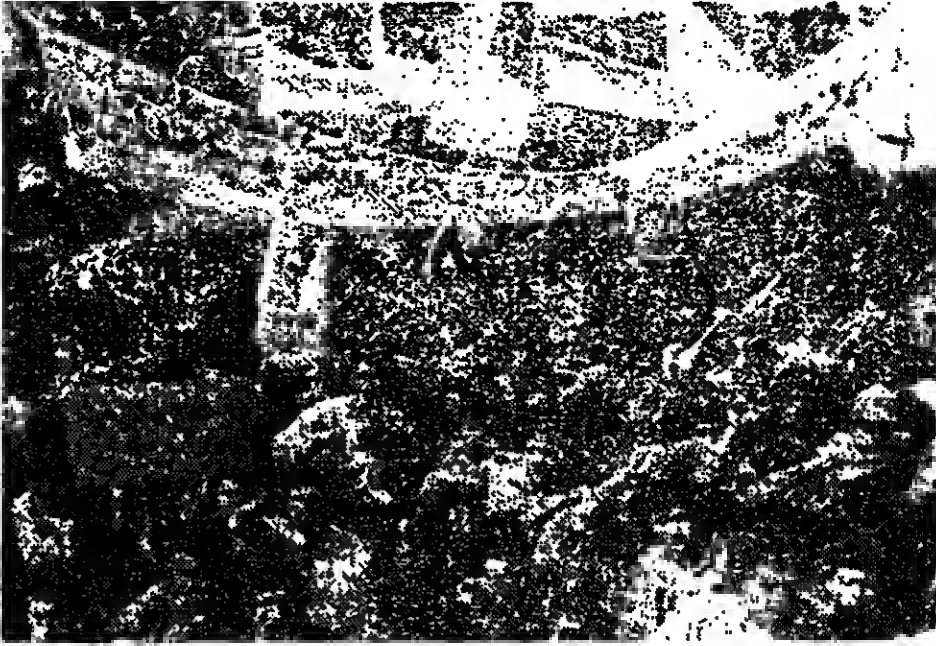
Since 1980 Libya's oil earnings have dropped by 40 per cent and a further drop is expected this year once the effects of falling world oil prices start to be reflected in the revenue cheques from the oil companies due to arrive shortly at the Libyan Treasury.

With a population of 3.2 million and an income of \$29.88 billion (£19.52 billion) — almost all of it from oil — the Libyan Government has been using its oil earnings for military projects and to support its programme of social reform.

Any cut in income will first be reflected in overseas spending as the country attempts to keep its internal expenditure intact.



Jet fighters preparing to take off yesterday from the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga north of the Gulf of Sirte, as demonstrators in Tripoli vent their anti-American feelings.



The road to confrontation

Washington (Reuters) — Chronology of important incidents in the steady deterioration of US-Libyan relations: December 2, 1979: A mob chanting support for Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran sets fire to US Embassy in Tripoli.

February 6, 1980: US Embassy virtually closed down after attacks on two French missions in Libya. April-May 1980: Washington expels Libyan diplomats amid claims that Tripoli was intimidating Libyan students in US and was responsible for murder of Libyans in Europe.

May 6, 1981: US closes down Libyan embassy in Washington, accusing staff of conduct contrary to internationally accepted standards of diplomatic behaviour. August 19, 1981: Two US F14 fighters shoot down two Libyan SU22s over Gulf of Sirte.

November 1981: Reports surface that Libya has sent "hit squads" to US to assassinate President Reagan and Vice-President George Bush. December 11, 1981: Washington restricts use of American passports for travel to Libya. March 10, 1982: US bans imports of Libyan crude oil. February 1983: Washington sends four Awaacs radar planes to Egypt amid reports of Libyan military build-up near its border with Sudan.

US says F14 jets chased off two Libyan MiG23s that approached the carrier Nimitz near the gulf. March 1984: US bans exports to Libya's Ras Lanuf petrochemical complex. June 4, 1985: Washington expels Libyan UN diplomat, claiming that he was involved in plot against Libyan dissidents in US. December 17, 1986: Nineteen people killed in Arab guerrilla attacks at Vienna and Rome airports. President Reagan accuses Libya of complicity. January 7, 1986: Mr Reagan severs all economic ties with Libya and orders 1,000 Americans there to return home. January 8, 1986: Washington freezes Libyan Government assets in US banks and their subsidiaries abroad.

Neighbouring Arabs view Gaddafi with suspicion

By Our Foreign Staff

As Colonel Gaddafi confronts the US Sixth Fleet off his shores, he finds himself surrounded by Arab neighbours on less suspicious of him than President Reagan. To the east, the colonel faces Egypt, whose government accuses him of sponsoring subversion. Although tension has subsided to recent weeks, the two countries have been on the brink of war on several occasions, a situation which, given the antagonism existing between the Libyan and Egyptian leaders, could recur at any time.

To the south in Chad, some 5,000 Libyan troops are supporting rebels of the former president, Mr Goukouni Oueddei, against the French-backed administration of President Hissène Habré. Last month French military aircraft attacked Libyan-rebel positions at Ouadi Doum after they had breached the 1984

agreement which led to the withdrawal of French and Libyan forces from Chad.

Colonel Gaddafi's relations with Tunisia to the west remain deeply strained after last summer's expulsion by Libya of thousands of Tunisian workers. His "treaty of union" with Morocco, which was signed in 1984 at the conservation of Paris and Washington, shows little sign of life. The first meeting of a joint parliamentary assembly, scheduled for last July in Rabat, was abruptly cancelled by King Hassan after Libya announced a treaty with Iran.

Colonel Gaddafi has been more successful in cultivating Algeria and Sudan, both of which had been at odds with him. On the day that the colonel's forces first clashed with the Americans, Algeria and Libya announced plans to increase trade tenfold this year.

Algeria and Libya also appear to have set aside border disputes, which prompted Algeria to block Libya from joining a 1983 "North African treaty of friendship and accord", which also includes Tunisia and Mauritania.

After years of hostility to Libya during the rule of former President Nimeiry, Sudan restored relations with Libya and signed a military protocol within weeks of the April 1985 coup that toppled the Nimeiry regime. In return, Libya cut off aid to the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Army, which is waging a guerrilla war in the south.

But Libya's relationship with Sudan carries the risk of costly military involvement in an unstable country, taxing the resources of a nation whose political rhetoric outweighs its military and diplomatic resources.

Oil funds ambitious projects

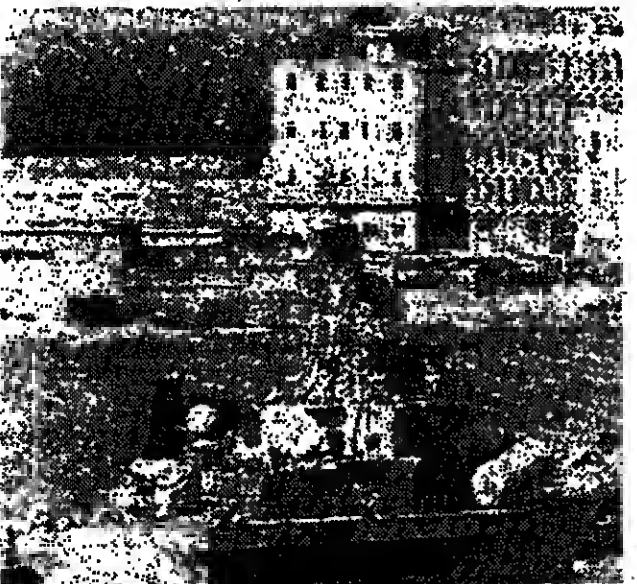
Tripoli (Reuters) — Key facts about Libya:

Population: 3.22 million (1982). State religion: Sunni Islam. Area: 685,524 sq miles, bounded by Mediterranean, Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia, Chad and Niger. Capital: Tripoli, population 980,000.

Economy: The discovery of oil in the 1950s made Libya one of the world's top 10 exporters a decade later. Concessions were granted to US, British, French and other foreign companies in 1955. In the 1970s Colonel Gaddafi set out to use oil wealth to revolutionize the economy and by 1983 had nationalized 70 per cent of the oil industry.

His most ambitious project was the \$11 billion "great man-made river" to pump water from underground Saharan reservoirs to the north. Recent history: Libya gained independence in 1951, after a decade of British and French administration, as a federal monarchy of three regions under King Muhammad Idris. In 1953 it joined the Arab League and signed a 20-year treaty with Britain, granting it military bases in return for financial help. It signed a similar treaty with the US.

On September 1, 1969, Colonel Gaddafi, aged 27, led a military coup which deposed Idris.



A boat in Benghazi similar to the one sunk by the US.

Backbone of the fleet

Washington (Reuters) — At least the first of the Libyan Navy vessels reported destroyed by US planes was believed to be a small but speedy French-built missile carrier that helped form the backbone of the Libyan fleet, according to available military data.

In announcing details of the first clash, the US Defense Secretary, Mr Caspar Weinberger, had identified the target craft as a Combattante II G fast attack boat. According to Jane's Fighting Ships, Libya had at least 10

Combattante II G fast attack boats produced in the late 1970s and early 1980s by the CMN Cherbourg shipyard in France.

It described the vessels as 311 tons fully loaded, about 161ft long, capable of making up to 39 knots and armed with four Otomat surface-to-surface missiles, one 76mm gun and two 40mm guns.

Military experts say that sea battles fought in the 1982 Falklands war between Britain and Argentina showed that large warships can be sunk by missiles fired from tiny boats.

already being produced by Libya

Libya is of high quality and is used in the European refineries to blend with other, cheaper crudes to produce the products that are in demand in the European market place.

The quality of its oil is reflected in production statistics, which show that while its output has fallen from 2.1 per cent of world output in 1980 to under 1.9 per cent at present, its share of overall Opec output has risen from 5.2 per cent in 1981 to over 6 per cent now.

Libya is sitting on estimated oil reserves of 21.1 billion barrels compared to 34.5 billion in the United States, but at current output rates Libya's oil should not run out for another 52 years, while America's should run dry in 8-9 years.

Unequal balance of rival forces

From Mohsin Ali Washington

The balance of military forces between Libya and the United States is estimated by Western experts as follows:

Libya: Total armed forces 73,000 regulars, 40,000 reserves. Total defence budget (1982) \$709 million (£472.6 million). Submarines 6. Large combat missiles 1. Minor surface combatants 46. Combat aircraft 535.

United States: Total armed forces 2,152,000 regulars and 1,212,000 active reserves. Total defence budget \$258.2 billion (1984). Submarines 138. Large combat missiles 200. Minor surface combatants 89. Combat aircraft 5,600.

Estimated US forces near the Gulf of Sirte: Aircraft carriers 3 — the 59,460-ton USS Saratoga, with about 70 aircraft; the 52,500-ton USS Coral Sea, with about 75 aircraft; the 60,300-ton USS America, with about 85 aircraft. Escort warships 27. Flagship 1. Servicemen 18,000.

An A6 Intruder navy light bomber attacked the Libyan missile installation at Sirte with Harpoon missiles on Monday. An A7 Corsair II navy attack aircraft fired on the Libyan control boat with Harpoon missiles.

Harpoon is a 12ft air-to-surface anti-ship missile. Harrier is a 13ft air-to-surface missile.

The Libyan missile site attacked was equipped with Soviet SA5 long-range air defence missiles, 54ft long and guided by radar.

The Pentagon said that since 1970 Libya has received more than \$10 billion in Soviet military equipment. About 2,000 Soviet military advisers are in Libya as well as about 1,200 East European advisers and technicians.

The Soviet advisory mission assists with the assembly and maintenance of advanced Soviet equipment such as MiG25 Foxbat fighters and MiG24 Hind helicopters.

The Libyans were reported to have been building two SAS sites, enabling them to attack aircraft operating close to or over the Gulf of Sirte.

In return for supplying Libya with arms, the Soviet Union has received additional access to Libyan ports and airfields, thus enhancing Soviet military capabilities in the region.

Advertisement for Hanson Bid Worth. It features large bold text: 'Latest prices: At last some help for the hard pressed Imperial shareholder. Mindful that share prices can vary daily, we are publishing a bulletin showing the value of each of the offers for your company. In order to be perfectly fair, the values we've quoted are based on the best possible offers.' Below this, it lists 'HANSON BID WORTH: 362.9 P.' and 'UNITED BISCUITS BID WORTH: 335.3 P.' and 'HANSON BID BETTER BY: +27.6 P.' The advertisement is for Hanson Trust and includes a small disclaimer at the bottom.

Arch-foes share platform in Matabeleland peace drive

From Jan Raath Harare

Leaders of both the ruling Zanu (PF) party and Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zapu party are planning a series of unprecedented rallies in the western provinces of Matabeleland in an attempt to bring peace to the troubled region.

The first of the meetings was held on Sunday in a rundown trading centre near Kezi, 75 miles south of Bulawayo and one of the areas most infiltrated by guerrillas. In a remarkable gesture of

hatchet-burying, Mr Nkomo and Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Home Affairs and Zapu's bitterest enemy, shared a platform for the first time in 23 years to urge a thousand Ndebele peasants to co-operate with the security forces in their fight against pro-Zapu guerrillas.

The two men reaffirmed their support for negotiations - which began in September last year - to unite the two parties. Mr Nkala, the only Ndebele-speaking member of the Politburo of the ruling party, helped to engineer a

split in Zapu in 1963, then the only black nationalist organization opposing white minority rule. He was also instrumental in forming the predecessor of Zanu (PF).

His repeated promises to "smash Zapu" and campaigns for the harassment of the party are believed to be a result of his resentment of Mr Nkomo's unofficial leadership of Zimbabwe's 1.8 million Ndebele people.

The peasants from the solidly pro-Zapu area of Kezi - Mr Nkomo's birthplace - reacted warmly to the two leaders' appeals, even if somewhat less enthusiastically to Mr Nkala. He was heckled and shown the outspoken bitterness of the people who for nearly five years have now borne the brunt of the brutality of both the security forces and the guerrillas.

Mr Nkala was bluntly told that the Army was solely responsible for the violence, and the peasants voiced their doubts about the actual existence of the guerrillas.

They received the thinly disguised endorsement of Mr Nkomo, who referred to "dis-

sidents, whoever they may be". The Army was repeatedly criticized for its "pseudo-operations" in which soldiers allegedly pose as guerrillas to elicit information on their movements from local people.

However, an incident at the very end appeared to sum up the mood of the meeting. An elderly man in traditional skin garb, who had earlier danced for the crowd, seized the microphone to declare: "Down with Mugabe, down with Nkomo."

But he went on as government officials visibly relaxed:

"Zapu is no more, Zanu is no more. The people of Zimbabwe are one."

Mr Nathan Shamuyarira, the Minister of Information, subsequently denied that the meeting was related to the unity talks. These are reported to have been strained in recent months, with factions in both parties opposing a merger.

Mr John Nkomo, Zapu's information secretary, however, agreed with Mr Shamuyarira that the meeting could be a "contributory factor" in improving the climate of the negotiations.

There is little doubt here that continued success with similar meetings would provide a shot in the arm to the talks.

The location of Sunday's rally, outside Kezi has great significance for its inhabitants. The rocky hills nearby in 1896 were the scene of Cecil Rhodes' successful negotiations to end a rebellion by Ndebele armies that left 140 white settlers dead.

Also nearby is the shrine of Njelele, a granite outcrop where, possibly for centuries, people have offered propitiation to their ancestral spirits

Rocket attacks shake Tokyo

From David Watts Tokyo

Salvoes of rocket-propelled incendiary bombs were fired at the Imperial Palace and the US Embassy here yesterday.

It appeared to be a protest against plans to celebrate the sixtieth year of Emperor Hirohito's reign at the end of next month and the summit of seven Western industrialized countries early the following month.

There were no immediate claims of responsibility for the lunchtime attacks, neither of which caused injuries or serious damage.

Three rockets were first fired from the boot of a car about 100 yards from the Imperial Palace and within a few hundred yards of the British Embassy. The car burst into flames as one rocket landed near the Hanzomon Gate, another set fire to an old, ruined palace gate and the third was untraced.

Three similar rockets fired soon after at the US Embassy caused no damage and were also launched from a second stolen car.

Police said the rockets were simpler than those fired at Narita and Haneda airports by the Chukaku-ha faction of radical left-wingers almost a year ago.

The attacks came despite tighter security in Tokyo since March 1 in preparation for the anniversary and the summit, and despite well-publicized exercises by security men who will be responsible for protecting world leaders when they arrive in May.

The Chief Cabinet Secretary, Mr Masaharu Goda, said: "We deeply regret the acts of outrage which constitute a grave challenge to democracy. We intend to instruct our police force to step up security measures to prevent a recurrence of similar incidents."

Police swamp black township after two constables die

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Heavy police reinforcements were rushed to the black South African township of Crossroads yesterday after two constables - one of them white - were shot and killed.

The body of the white policeman, who had been suspended from duty for suspected drug dealing, was found early yesterday on a road near Crossroads, a squatter camp outside Cape Town. He had been shot and stripped and his body burned.

According to some reports Constable R. Spanenberg had been "necklaced" - burned to death with a petrol-filled tyre round his neck, the form of township execution frequently used on suspected informers and "collaborators".

Police headquarters in Pretoria said they suspected that he was inside Crossroads when he was attacked.

The second policeman, a black constable, was shot a few hours later by a sniper near the murder spot as he jumped from a Casspir armoured personnel carrier in what ap-

peared to be a cleverly-prepared ambush.

As senior CID meo gathered where Spanenberg's body was found, the Casspir crew moved off to where two trucks were blazing. Shots believed to have been fired from a Soviet AK47 semi-automatic rifle rang out as the police jumped from the vehicle and the black constable was killed instantly by a bullet in the head.

The police yelled "pasop" (look out) as they hurriedly took cover and began firing back. Some climbed on the roofs of shanties as other Casspirs drove into the squalid township. Reporters ordered out of the area heard more firing as they left.

The two deaths brought the number of policemen killed in political violence this year to 14, three of them whites. Two white policemen were killed by a mob at the Westonaria gold mine near Johannesburg in January. Last year 16 policemen, all blacks, were killed in township unrest.

Police also reported yesterday that they had shot and killed a suspected African National Congress guerrilla in Kaitheoog township near Germiston, east of Johannesburg. They said the man came at them with a hand-grenade when they raided a house after a tip-off from other blacks. AK47 rifles, ammunition and parts for limpet mines were found in the house, police said.

There were also clashes in the Vaal Triangle townships south-east of Johannesburg as groups of youths stoned buses and hurled petrol bombs in an attempt to enforce a work stoppage called over the arrests of participants in an 18-month rent boycott.

Colonel dies: A colonel of the South West African Territory Force, Commandant Charles Hochapfel, aged 44, had died in a Pretoria military hospital from wounds sustained in a clash with South West African People's Organization guerrillas earlier this month.

Furore at Spielberg Oscar cold shoulder

From Ivor Davis Hollywood

The 58th annual Oscar show will go down in Hollywood history as much for the failure of Steven Spielberg's *The Colour Purple*, which was left completely out in the cold, as for the triumph of director Sydney Pollack, whose magnificently pastoral picture *Out of Africa* collected seven Oscars.

At the start of the long evening *Out of Africa*, the \$30 million (\$20 million) old-style Hollywood epic romance based on the life and writings of Baroness Karen von Blixen, otherwise known as Danak story-teller extraordinary Isak Dinesen, and starring Meryl Streep, Robert Redford, Klaus Maria Brandauer, was up for 11 Oscars.

So was its chief rival, *The Colour Purple*, director Spielberg's controversial box office hit based on Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning book and starring newcomer Whoopi Goldberg.

By the time it was all over the scoreline read: *Out of Africa*, seven; *The Colour Purple*, nil. The voting showed quite clearly how unimpressed academy members were by Spielberg's film. Nor were they moved by the furore over the fact that, although the picture had 11 nominations, Spielberg's directing talents were overlooked completely.

Never before in the long history of the Oscars has a film with so many nominations come away without a solitary statuette.

But Spielberg was not the only big loser in a night of unpredictable results. Two other big favourites also fared disappointingly. *Prizzi's Hon-*



Geraldine Page, the actress, and Sydney Pollack, the director, after receiving their Oscars.

our, the black comedy about a hit man and his assassin wife, started with eight nominations but won only one award, that for Angelica Huston as best supporting actress. The film was directed by veteran filmmaker John Huston, who had to be content with his daughter's victory.

Australian director Peter Weir's stylish thriller *Witness*, which also had eight nominations, won two Oscars, including one for screenplay.

The best actor award went to William Hurt, certainly no household name in Hollywood, for his brilliant portrayal of the homosexual inmate in the Brazilian-made film *Kis-*

Of The Spider Woman. And it was a night of triumph for the veteran actress Geraldine Page, who has been nominated nine times in the last 25 years. She won the best actress trophy for her role as the ageing woman yearning to return to her Texas home in *Trip To Italy*.

Another veteran of the Hollywood scene, Don Ameche, was best supporting Oscar for his role in *Cocoon*.

Ironically, however, the leading story in the aftermath of the awards was the fact that Spielberg had been so ignored

by Oscar voters. For Spielberg, the most commercially successful filmmaker of the last 25 years in Hollywood, his involvement in *The Colour Purple* had been widely regarded as a bid for legitimacy and acknowledgement from the film community.

It was yet another slap in the face for the young director whose *ET*, the biggest-earning picture in Hollywood history, was passed over by the academy in 1982. Many believe that Spielberg's enormous commercial successes have prompted an unusually harsh critical and peer backlash, as witnessed at Monday night's ceremonies.

Doubt on Deng's retiring hint

Hong Kong - Political observers here do not expect Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, to step down, despite his hints that he is considering it. (David Bonavia writes).

Mr Deng was quoted in reports from Peking as telling Mr Paul Schluter, the visiting Danish Prime Minister, that he had deliberately kept out of the limelight for the past three months to lend more author-

ity to his likely successors. It was thought he was referring particularly to Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister.

However, Mr Deng is 82 and it is known to want to retire as soon as he can safely hand over power to Mr Zhao and Mr Hu Yaobang, the party Secretary-General, as well as several others who are being groomed for leadership.

Zhao's pledge: In his ad-

Swiss give asylum to deserter

Bern (Reuters) - Switzerland has reversed an earlier decision and agreed to grant asylum to a Soviet army deserter who spent two years in the desert after being captured by rebels in Afghanistan, the Justice Ministry said.

Yuri Povarovitsin, 24, who alleged on Swiss television last year that he would be imprisoned and shot if forced to go home, first applied for asylum in 1984 but his request was turned down. He is now working in a factory near Lausanne.

Of 11 Soviet soldiers interned here, one is still held, seven decided to go home, one sought asylum in West Germany, and another has been given a Swiss residence permit.

Reagan emergency aid for Honduras

Washington

President Reagan approved emergency military assistance of \$20 million (£13 million) to Honduras yesterday to help to repel a large offensive by Nicaraguan troops against American-backed guerrillas operating from bases inside Honduran territory.

The attack, according to diplomats and others in Latin

America, appears to be the largest anti-rebel operation conducted by Sandinista troops since their operations five years ago.

US officials said Mr Reagan's action was in response to a request from Honduran authorities on Monday night. The President had notified appropriate members of Congress that he

intended to exercise his emergency authority under the Foreign Assistance Act to provide Honduras with material, training and services.

The material includes air defence weapons, conventional ordnance, spare parts and armaments for helicopters.

The US is anxious to play up the Nicaraguan attack in the hope that it will encourage a reluctant House of Representatives to support President Reagan's request for substantial military aid.

White House officials said up to 1,500 Nicaraguan troops had penetrated 16 miles into Honduras in an attempt to wipe out rebel camps. Reports from Mexico supported that figure. The troops are said to have moved into El Paraiso province in Honduras on Saturday.

Moscow will continue its test ban

Geneva - In calling yet again for an end to underground nuclear tests, the Soviet Union said yesterday that by last week's detonation, the US was showing a "total disregard" for the opinions of the rest of the world and of a significant part of public opinion in the US itself (Alan McGregor writes).

Mr Victor Israelyan, Soviet delegate at the 40-nation UN Disarmament Conference, said all five previous US Administrations had supported a comprehensive test ban. He made it clear the Soviet moratorium, due to end on March 31, would continue at least until the US carried out a further test.

The US delegate, Mr Donald Lewis, said "testing supports the maintenance of the nuclear deterrence on which the US and its allies depend".

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Change of Interest Rate NEW BORROWERS

The rate of interest charged for loans on private dwellings for owner-occupation, whatever the size of the loan, is now:

Repayment 12% - Typical APR 12.9%
Endowment 12% - Typical APR 12.7%

EXISTING BORROWERS

1. The rates of interest charged on existing loans will be reduced from 1st April 1986.

2. Differentials charged for endowment mortgages will be removed with effect from 1st April 1986.

3. Borrowers will be advised of the effects of the above changes in due course.

Full written details of the Society's mortgage facilities are available from your local branch or the address below.

INVESTORS

With effect from 1st April 1986 the following rates of interest will apply to investment accounts both new and existing.

	Net Rate	Gross Equivalent*
FIVE STAR ACCOUNTS		
£50,000 up to £1,000	7.75%	10.92%
£2,000 up to £4,000	8.00%	11.27%
£5,000 up to £9,000	8.25%	11.62%
£10,000 plus	8.50%	11.97%
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Swiss give asylum to deserter

Bern (Reuters) - Switzerland has reversed an earlier decision and agreed to grant asylum to a Soviet army deserter who spent two years in the desert after being captured by rebels in Afghanistan, the Justice Ministry said.

Yuri Povarovitsin, 24, who alleged on Swiss television last year that he would be imprisoned and shot if forced to go home, first applied for asylum in 1984 but his request was turned down. He is now working in a factory near Lausanne.

Of 11 Soviet soldiers interned here, one is still held, seven decided to go home, one sought asylum in West Germany, and another has been given a Swiss residence permit.

Train blaze

Colombo (Reuters) - Tamil guerrillas set fire to a passenger train in Sri Lanka's Northern Province, after they had ordered off the passengers.

Advice order

Singapore (Reuters) - Singapore is to make it mandatory for all women seeking abortion to undergo counselling by doctors first.

Plant blast

Issoire, France (AP) - An explosion tore through a smelting plant, killing at least one worker, injuring 15 others and destroying the building. Three others were missing.

Once bitten

Lagos (UPI) - So many students and teachers have been attacked by deadly snakes at the University of Sekoto in northwest Nigeria lately that a snake charmer will be called in to help deal with the reptiles.

Haven closing

Singapore (Reuters) - Singapore, regarded by western nations as a haven for music and computer pirates, has introduced a new copyright Bill.

Ban sought

Auckland (Reuters) - Two French agents convicted for their roles in the Rainbow Warrior sinking are seeking a High Court injunction to stop Television New Zealand screening film of their trial.

Russians almost ready to launch first space shuttle

Washington

The 157-page glossy report, with numerous colour photographs of the latest Soviet missiles, bombers and submarines, as well as charts and maps, says that Moscow is continuing to work on advanced strategic defence technology. By the end of this decade it may well advance to the testing of lasers for targeting ballistic missiles in flight.

Within the past year, the Soviet Union, as well as deploying 70 SS25s, has continued testing the SSX24 mobile intercontinental ballistic missile. The fourth Typhoon and the third Delta and IV class strategic ballistic missile submarines have also been launched.

Over the next ten years, the Soviet Union is likely to deploy 2,000 to 3,000 air, sea and ground-launched nuclear-armed cruise missiles. Its new 65,000-tonne aircraft carrier is

also due for its first sea trials in the late 1980s.

On space, the report says that at least 70 per cent of Soviet space launches are purely military, supporting both defensive and offensive operations. In 1985 some 100 Soviet space launches over-shadowed America's 15 or so.

The Soviet Union now operates several space-based reconnaissance and surveillance systems.

A heavy-lift booster system will apparently be used to launch the Soviet shuttle orbiter, a spacecraft similar to the American shuttle, it says. This system would be able to carry very heavy payloads of about 100,000 kg.

These disclosures come in the wake of the Challenger explosion and reports that NASA is now planning to devote most shuttle flights to military missions once launchings resume.

Princess Anne visiting the Christ of Corcovado statue that overlooks Rio de Janeiro at the start of a private Brazil tour.



Princess Anne visiting the Christ of Corcovado statue that overlooks Rio de Janeiro at the start of a private Brazil tour.

Japanese 'opening' shuts out foreign lawyers

Even in a limited area such as the law, where cultural and linguistic differences present formidable challenges to foreigners, the Government, backed by the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, has decided to restrict access severely to a market which will grow rapidly as Japanese business and financial institutions become more involved internationally.

The "market opening" measure, part of the package promised last July, will introduce a far less liberal law than that in force before 1955 and one which will disqualify most international lawyers and those who have taken the time and trouble to study Japanese law and language and who have built up experience in Japanese practices.

One of the federation of bar association's main concerns, according to Mr Ichiro Kugisawa, its secretary-general, is that full liberalization would mean that Japanese law practices could be swamped by the superior financial clout of American law offices. They are also concerned about foreign lawyers "controlling" Japanese lawyers.

"The whole thing is ridiculous," one foreign lawyer said. "The Japanese will be laughed at when this law comes out. It's like some kind of nasty trick."

The provisions causing most foreign anguish are:

- Foreign lawyers will be allowed to practise only the law of their native country or state;
- They must have five years' experience outside Japan before they are allowed access;
- They will not be allowed to employ Japanese lawyers and must be resident in the country for six months of the year.

Britain and the EEC in general are particularly concerned about the narrow scope of activities which will be permitted to foreign lawyers and the demand for five years' experience outside the country. Foreign lawyers practising in Britain face no such restrictions and may open a practice immediately on qualifying as long as they satisfy immigration requirements.

Not only will the pool of experienced young lawyers who have worked in Japan be eliminated but, in the EEC's view, the five-year provision is likely to attract poorer lawyers

who have failed to make the grade in their own countries.

"As a response to the prospect of Japan becoming an international financial and business centre it is disappointing. The Japanese Government has missed an opportunity," a European diplomat said. "But this law is better than no law at all."

Also disturbing is the fact that control of lawyers allowed to practise will be in the hands of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations. The federation has been responsible for much of the draft Bill, clearly indicating its determination to defend its territory against outsiders, even though there would be plenty of scope for both foreign and local lawyers. The sector is fully liberalized.

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Philippines constitution suspended

Aquino scraps Parliament and takes wide powers

President Corazon Aquino, marking her first month in power, abolished the Philippines Parliament yesterday, declared a provisional government and gave herself sweeping emergency powers for at least six months.

In a nationally televised address, Mrs Aquino suspended the 1973 martial law constitution, under which deposed President Marcos drew his autocratic powers, and announced that an interim "freedom constitution" would take immediate effect, incorporating some of the uncontroversial features of the old charter.

A constitutional commission of no more than 50 men and women will be appointed by Mrs Aquino to draw up a new constitution within three months. This will then be ratified by the people in a plebiscite prior to elections - all within one year of yesterday's proclamation.

"I have listened with care to the arguments about the form in which we should conduct our political affairs while we put in place a new permanent constitution," Mrs Aquino told a press conference.

"Now, today, I am announcing an interim constitution under which our shattered nation can take shelter after years of dictatorship in order to heal its wounds, restore its strength and enjoy the first fruits of its new-found freedom."

In her prepared statement Mrs Aquino promised to exercise her sweeping legislative powers judiciously and with the assistance of the Cabinet. The Justice Minister, Mr Nephtali Gonzales, who read out the full Proclamation Number Three, said later that these powers would be subject to two judicial reviews.

Referring to her dissolution of the 190-member National Assembly nominated by the party of Mr Marcos - Mrs Aquino said the Parliament had "pillaged our politics" as Mr Marcos's business cronies had "pillaged our economy".

Using its majority, the assembly last month rubber-stamped the proclamation of Mr Marcos as winner of the presidential election on February 7, ignoring opposition charges of massive vote buying and cheating.

That proclamation still stands and although the Assembly - in an obvious gesture of self-survival - has offered to recognize Mrs Aquino as President and work with her, she has chosen to ignore it.

A new, popularly-elected parliament is needed, she said. "If political power is to be returned to its proper limits, and our society cleansed of the crime and repression of recent years, we must cut out the cancer of our political system."

Mr Gonzales announced that the priorities of the new government were the complete reorganization of government, protection of civil, political, human, social and economic rights, the recovery of the ill-gotten overseas wealth of Mr Marcos and his associates and the eradication of graft and corruption.

Mr Zamal, a leader of the underground umbrella group, the National Democratic Front, said his organization, with the outlawed Communist Party and its military wing, the New People's Army, was prepared to hold ceasefire talks at a mutually agreed venue.

Manila - Communist Party officials and guerrillas said for the first time yesterday that they were prepared to begin talks, without preconditions, on an eventual nationwide ceasefire after 17 years of fighting (Keith Dalton writes).

If the ceasefire held a "political settlement" was possible, provided President Aquino's administration carried out the radical changes needed for national reconciliation, a left-wing leader, Mr Antonio Zamal, told journalists at a secret press conference north of Manila.

The unexpected announcement came as military headquarters reported the "mass surrender" of 1,000 Communist rebels and sympathizers on Central Negros Island.



Protesters demanding a civilian government in Haiti set fire to rubbish at a road junction in Port-au-Prince.

Barricades set ablaze in Haiti protest

Port-au-Prince (Reuters) - Mobs of youths set alight piles of rubbish at scores of road junctions throughout the Haitian capital to press demands for a civilian government. Firemen and soldiers tackled the burning barricades on Monday night. Police fired pistols into the air in one poor district, but there were no reports of injuries. The fires ended a day of anti-Government protests that began with a peaceful march by as many as 15,000 people, most of them young.

Lieutenant-General Henri Namphy, President of the ruling council that took over after dictator Jean Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier fled the country last month, renewed a pledge to move the country towards democracy. He also announced ministerial appointments viewed by Western diplomats and political observers as another in a series of efforts to stem the public outcry against the military-dominated rule.

On Friday, the 53-year-old career soldier, who has the backing of the United States, dismissed three members of the council with past links to Mr Duvalier or his more notorious father, Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier. Both the morning marchers and those who started the fires said they would continue to demonstrate for the establishment of a civilian government. A newly-formed group of

journalists, student leaders and young churchmen called for a national school boycott and for renewed demonstrations. They said they would escalate their campaign if there was no official response. At a blockaded bridge across the River Bretelle, south of the former city of Duvalierville, now called Caberet, about 50 youths said they would continue to block Highway One daily until the Government bowed to their demands.

Beach house move for the Marcoses

Mr Ferdinand Marcos and his wife Imelda have moved into a \$1.5 million Honolulu beach house after spending a month at the heavily-guarded Hickam Air Base in Hawaii.

The quiet move on Monday night came amid investigations in the Philippines and the US into the alleged misuse of millions of dollars by the former Philippines President during his 20-year rule.

The beach house, which has a one-bedroom cottage on its extensive grounds, was searched by a bomb squad before the exiled couple took residence. Local estate agents said they did not think they would live there for long.

Mr Marcos had been expected to move to Panama earlier this month but authorities there decided at the last moment they did not want him.

Meanwhile, a Customs Service inventory showed that Mr Marcos took about \$7.7 million in bounty to Hawaii, mainly diamonds, emeralds, rubies, sapphires, pearls, gold and silver.

The inventory was released in New York by Senator Jovito Salonga, chairman of the Philippines Commission on Good Government, in a bid by President Aquino's administration to recover property Mr Marcos reputedly owns in New York.

Included in the inventory were details of the baggage carried by the 90-member Marcos party on their flight to Honolulu.

Over 400 items were loaded into 12 suitcases and attaché cases, 22 boxes containing about \$1.2 million in Philippines pesos and a pocket calculator.

The most expensive single listing was \$1,487,415 for "one set, comprised of one bracelet, one pair of earrings and one brooch consisting of sapphires, rubies, diamonds".

The most expensive of the tiaras was estimated to be worth \$58,286. The smallest amount listed was \$5 for a fountain pen.

Rebel ceasefire offer

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India and US in joint drugs fight

From Michael Hamlyn Delhi

The United States and India have announced the formation of a joint working party to tackle the growing trade in drugs between the two countries.

Mr Edwin Meese, the US Attorney-General, who is visiting India, described the country this week as primarily a transit post for illegal drugs, located between two areas where illicit narcotics are grown.

The joint group will develop policies for co-operation in training and sharing information. Mr Meese also indicated that customs officers from each country would be allowed to operate in the other.

He was less positive, however, about the supply of drugs to India from Afghan poppy fields under the control of tribes supported by US aid to the guerrillas.

Mr Meese, who met Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, and other Indian Government officials, has also discussed the growth of international terrorist activities and announced that a joint study will be made of the present extradition treaty between the two countries.

● ISLAMABAD: Pakistan was assured of US military and economic assistance beyond the present 1987 deadline when Mr William Schneider, US Under-Secretary of State for Security Assistance, announced a package of aid for 1987-93, amounting to \$4.02 billion (£2.68 billion), subject to congressional approval (Hasan Akhtar writes).

Bangladesh poll split

From Ahmed Fazl, Dhaka

Political parties in Bangladesh opposed to the military Government of President Ershad are sharply divided over participation in parliamentary elections set for May 7.

Begum Khaleda Zia, leader of a seven-party opposition coalition, has accused the rival 15-party alliance of betrayal. The 15-party alliance, led by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, decided to join the election, to be supervised under martial law.

Ten killed in Sikh vengeance

From Michael Hamlyn Delhi

At least 10 people died in the battered state of Punjab as Sikh terrorists took revenge on Hindu counter-agitators or simply random Hindus working peacefully in the fields.

There were four deaths in a shoot-out between Sikh gunmen and paramilitary police. Escalating violence has led to further communal clashes between Sikhs and the Hindu chauvinists of the Shiv Sena (the Army of the god Shiva).

Outside the industrial city of Jullunder, which has been labouring under curfew since March 17, there was a clash between Shiv Sena workers and police, and later two brothers who were both activists in the movement were shot dead in the shop they owned. Police said they were killed by three youths.

The curfew was extended to the whole of the old city of Jullunder after the two deaths. The neighbouring town of Nakodar also remained under curfew.

Terrorists on a motorcycle shot dead two people in a field outside Batala, but the week-long siege of the town by extremists of the All-India Sikh Students' Federation and the United Akali Dal was lifted by security forces.

They fanned out around the town and cleared six of the 10 roads blocked by sword-wielding young men.

Security forces yesterday cordoned off Matewal village, 12 miles from the Sikhs' holiest town of Amritsar, after an encounter in which two terrorists and two policemen died.

Mrs Zia yesterday told a public rally attended by more than 20,000 supporters in the capital that elections without the prior lifting of martial law would only legitimize an illegal military government.

The rally, called by the opposition as part of a "black day" marking the fourth anniversary of martial law, also heard Mrs Zia accuse the 15-party alliance of stabbing the anti-government movement in the back.

Nelson's flagship

A superb win for Nelson Piquet, in blistering heat, at the Brazilian Grand Prix on Sunday.

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THE ARTS

Television
Carrying on going

Until last night the name H.W. Tilman was unfamiliar to me. In fact, watching John Mead's documentary on this explorer's life, *No Pay, No Prospects, Not Much Pleasure* (HTV), I had, on at least two occasions, an uneasy feeling the whole enterprise was a spoof.

It began with a parade in a small Indian town, celebrating Tilman Day. Quite what the shy Major had done in 1944 to merit this accolade remained obscure. We then had a résumé of his extraordinary Bushanese career: a distinguished soldier of two world wars, a tea-planter in Kenya who once rode across Africa on a bicycle, a mountaineer who scaled the Himalayas and, from 1954 (when an ad for a shipmate was placed in this paper with the programme title), a sailor to the uttermost parts of the earth. Then in 1977, aged 79, he sailed from Rina and was never seen again.

Judging from several interviews with former crew-members and climbers, Tilman was an uncompromising nautocrat with the temper of the cold south wind. Some remarkable home-movies, shot with direct climacticness, showed him silently puffing a pipe, in the posture of a walrus with a frosted moustache. Like dots charring not a map, the resulting film was as evanescent as Tilman would have wished.

The photographer, Don McCallin, is happier among humans. In *Home Front* (Arena, BBC2), he journeyed without commentary to Bradford, Harlow and the East End. In the steady, clearly-focused company of the cameraman Philip Bonham Carter, McCallin made a bee-line for those living in modern poverty; both the poverty of squalor in Bradford council flats and the poverty of imagination in Harlow's shopping centre.

Despite the impact of certain images — a girl with chipped wood, a skinhead with a tattoo — there was a sense this territory was new, familiar to McCallin. Halfway through the format of knocking on arbitrary urban doors took on the dereliction of the subject within.

Nicholas Shakespeare

The British première of parts of Olivier Messiaen's opera *St François d'Assise* is given tonight in the Festival Hall and broadcast on Radio 3: here the composer, in an exclusive interview, tells Paul Griffiths something of the work's genesis

The song of the heavens resounding

Olivier Messiaen, photographed at rehearsal this week by Dod Miller

It is hard to write about Olivier Messiaen without making him sound like a plaster saint, but his sweetness of temperament, his composure and his modesty are sublimely untouched by anything of modern doubt or self-promotion. If anybody else were to mention Monteverdi, Rameau, Mozart, Wagner, Mussorgsky, Debussy and Berg as the only operative composers to merit consideration beside his own work, the effect would be one of unpardonable arrogance, but Messiaen speaks with such open sincerity that objection is silenced.

During the course of our conversation I suggested he had made himself difficult for himself in *Saint François d'Assise* in bringing an angel on to the stage, since no soprano of flesh and blood could live up to his own description of the heavenly visitor as "a beautiful, enigmatic butterfly". But his response was more puzzled than reproving. He had gone to the Uffizi, seen an excellent angel in an *Annunciation* by Fra Angelico, and made that the pattern for his costume design. What could be more obvious?

Everything about his work he describes as if it were similarly self-evident. When he was asked by Rolf Liebermann to write a work for the Paris Opéra, the subject had of course to be religious. "My dream was to make a Passion and Resurrection, but I think it is impossible to put Christ on the stage; that is something *trop beau*. So I chose a man who was not

God, but who most resembled Christ in being chaste, poor and humble, and in receiving Christ's wounds. Also, St Francis is dear to me because I am an ornithologist, and he loved and preached to the birds. Having made that choice, I left out everything that was secondary to the progress of grace in his soul. I left out the dispute between father and son, on account of its being too psychoanalytical, and I left out St Clare, the interviews with the Pope and the voyage to Egypt."

The first of the three scenes to be performed in tonight's concert is "The Kissing of the Leper." "One sees a leper who is not only horribly disfigured but also wicked. St Francis, despite his revulsion, approaches and talks to him, and gradually he is inwardly transformed. St Francis also is transformed, and embraces the leper. Double miracle: the leper is cured, and Francis becomes St Francis from that moment." One then passes in this concert selection to the last act.

"St Francis is alone in a cave, and he asks to understand the sufferings of Christ. There is a choir which is the voice of Christ, and which grants him the same wounds to be reproduced in his body. The scene is a terrible one, because the whole first part expresses a sensation of extreme anguish, but then that suffering is transformed into an extraordinary celestial joy, because St Francis is profoundly happy at this sign that he has been

chosen by God. Then in the last scene St Francis is exhausted by penitence, by privations and also by the stigma. He bids farewell to his brothers and to the birds, and the angel and the leper reappear to lead him into Paradise. The choir sings of the Resurrection, transforming St Francis's theme into a chorale of glory."

For Messiaen, charmingly touched as he is by the present run of concert performances, the work remains essentially one for the theatre. "It is a work I imagined with décors, people on stage, costumes — and also an individual who is very important: the orchestra, which is part of the action, because one sees some of the instruments on the stage." That at least was how the work was presented in Paris, in a production with which Messiaen professes himself happy, except for the lack of birds for St Francis's sermon to them. I suggested that the work might profit from a more stylized treatment, looking towards Japanese theatre.

"That is possible; I would not say no. In Tokyo the three scenes were performed in a semi-scenic version in the Catholic cathedral, with the singers in costume and the angel high in the organ-loft. That was better than a concert performance, but I would prefer to see it in a theatre." Might his experience in the theatre now lead him to a second opera? "You know, I worked on *Saint François* for eight years. I am now 77.

I have to think of smaller works." As to what those smaller works might be, he is unforthcoming. "I never speak of things until they are finished."

We turned to works of the past, and to Messiaen's often misunderstood statements about transcribing colours and birdsongs into his music. "When I read or listen to music I see colours inwardly, not with my eyes but in my head. Every sound-complex has a corresponding colour." For everyone, or just for him? "For me, I think the correspondences exist for everyone, but they vary from person to person." I point out that hue is associated with A major in his music, but with F sharp major in Scriabin's "Op. 9" No. 7. "But then I am by no means a disciple of Scriabin." As for the birds: "I take down the songs with pencil and paper, quite simply as musical dictation, but afterwards I transform them into my music. Of course, I always arrange them in some way; I am not a tape-recorder."

I asked finally which works he now feels closest to. "Those that I think are most representative, because they contain colours, because they contain birds, and because they contain my religious faith too, are *La Transfiguration, Des Canyons aux étoiles... and Saint François*. I also love the *Vingt Regards* and the *Méditations sur le mystère de la Sainte Trinité*. Some works may be better, some worse, but whatever I have done is sincere."

Theatre
Slings and arrows

The Man of Mode
Donmar Warehouse

Etherege's best-known comedy comes with the usual patronage-begging dedication followed by the modest prologue anywhere in Restoration drama. By way of inviting the house to have a good night out, it concludes: "Since each of you is fond of his own ugly face, why should you, when we hold it, break the glass?" Declan Donnellan, in this second production in the Cheek by Jowl season, has seized on this couplet (not, incidentally, by Etherege, but by one Sir Car Scroope) as a key to the play.

On a stage floor resembling a horizontal dashboard, the company first appears, gathered around the bull's-eye, favouring us with hostile looks and spitting out the prologue in tones of the utmost distaste. Thereafter, they retire into a looking-glass world, applauding each other after each scene, and studiously ignoring all signs of appreciation from the house.

The show is as well-drilled as a piece of clockwork, and its incessant circular moves and chases, plus the trick of freezing several groups in postures of desire or amazement while another group jerks into speech and motion, insistently suggest the operation of a wind-up toy. It is an impressive spectacle, especially as Mr Donnellan also knows how to vary his rhythms and extract

unsuspected atmospherics from the superficially cold-blooded text.

There is one particularly beautiful moment after the masquerade party, when all the women retire for the night, and the men are left alone briefly to forget about sexual rivalry and get down to a quiet drink as they watch the dawn breaking. Moments of that kind are additionally welcome as you can understand what is going on. The big disadvantage of playing a Restoration intrigue in the abstract, and with a doubling company, is that whatever outline the plot might present with conventional décor becomes obliterated in a busily undefined choreography.

It must also be said that there are not many laughs left in the play when Cheek by Jowl have done with it. The men are reduced to moral cyphers: walking embodiments of vulpine rapacity or senile lust, with no fun or mischief to bring you half into sympathy with them. The women, from Steph Bramwell's jealousy-crazed Lady Woodvil to Leda Hodgson as her two-timing confidante, all suffer like mad. Martin Turner plays Dormant (allegedly based on Rochester) with two expressions, hooded menace and a false grin. David Gillespie succeeds in transforming Sir Fopling Flutter, the much ridiculed fop, into the only sympathetic figure on stage.

Irving Wardle

Moon on a Rainbow Shawl
Stratford East

Errol John's lightweight domestic comedy of everyday Trinidadian life won the Observer play competition of 1957, was premiered at the Royal Court the next year and has not been seen in these islands since then. That would not appear to have been an important loss to the theatre-going public. Set in 1946, the action develops entirely in a cramped backyard of wooden shanties in Port of Spain, where we meet a poor family comprising an ageing former fast bowler, his fairly stock harridan of a wife and their young daughter who has a baby of her own, but no husband.



Tony Armatrading's upright and voluble Ephraim

Liverpool. Life will, we gather, go on much the same without him.

Directing his own play for the first time, Mr John is faced with the problem of making the 15 characters come alive in less than 100 minutes of stage time. Tony Armatrading's upright and at times voluble Ephraim works well enough with Jaye Griffiths's more banked-down Rosa, although one cannot but notice that the latter's attempt at a West Indian accent never gets much further west than Wales, while two of the other young players sound markedly London.

Barbara Asouad leads the way as the put-upon mother, and Joanne Campbell makes a marvellously vulgar tart.

A plot of a kind lurches to the surface when the café is burgled on the night of the veterans' victory celebrations, and Ephraim finds the claustrophobic dead end of his life all too much for him and elects to seek his fortune in

Martin Cropper



Olivier Messiaen, photographed at rehearsal this week by Dod Miller

Dance
Twilight Rites
The Place

I have been trying to decide what upsets me more about this show: the waste of the performers' skills or of the audience's time. On the whole, I think the spectators deserve more sympathy, since they have been lured by the reputations of those taking part into giving up their evening (65 minutes but it feels much longer) and must endure also having their intelligence insulted, whereas the participants have, unlikely as it may seem, chosen to take part.

Nelson Fernandez, who founded Strip Search Dance Company, is a former member of Ballet Rambert; the last

choreography I saw by him was entertaining. His co-director and composer is Carlos Miranda, who proved an able musician also with Rambert, although one might have taken warning from the fact that he has since worked on Lindsay Kemp's camp eccentricities. The designers, five of them, come from Wimbledon School of Art and show occasional flashes of inspiration.

But how can I begin to convey the mind-numbing horror of *Twilight Rites*? It is described as a collaboration dance theatre work, which, as happens too often nowadays, means that little snippets of movement which would not pass muster on their own account are mixed with amateurish snatches of action, talk and in this case attempted singing to make an amalgam that achieves the virtues of none of the forms.

The performers, who have

apparently made up their own parts, claim to be exploring a surreal world of the imagination. That, freely translated from the jargon, means that the floor is littered with rubbish and that no single incident makes sense in itself or relates to any other incident.

Lloyd Newson, who can dance very well when he performs real choreography, stoically endures having his bald head repeatedly slapped by Fernandez queening it in a bare-shouldered frock. The women, Julie Barnsley, Michelle Richecoeur and Maxine Braham, have more costume changes than the men and speak their daft lines more clearly. Whether that is a benefit is arguable. Monday's performance at The Place is not to be repeated, so there is no risk of your catching it.

John Percival

Concerts
Friends well characterized

Philharmonia/
Davis
Festival Hall/
Radio 3

In some respects Elgar's *The Apostles* parallels the "Enigma" Variations of four years earlier. The oratorio also has its "larger theme": the passage of Christ's teaching, crucifixion and resurrection. But Elgar, for whatever reason, refers only obliquely to these events (the commonly accepted explanation that he found the crucifixion "too painful to contemplate" begs too many questions). He prefers to concentrate, as in the Variations, on the "friends pictured within".

Stafford Dean's Judas grew weightier and more compelling as the traitor's mood grew blacker. He was simply the odd man out during the Beatitudes, but conjured a chasm of nihilism as his suicide approached. Jonathan Summers invested Peter with simple dignity, while Alfreda Hodgson, repenting in the Tower of Magdala, was rich-toned and eloquent.

Others were less convincing. Stephen Roberts found his best voice right at the end, in the Ascension scene, but his

earlier ascensions above the bass staff had been less than miraculous. Isabel Buchanan rarely achieved the requisite tonal purity for the saintly soprano roles.

Initially Andrew Davis's conducting seemed unresponsive to the subtly shifting moods of this motif-laden score. As the drama of Part II unfolded, however, his restrained but often beautiful dynamic shading became increasingly persuasive. Those anguished brass chords in the betrayal scene gained in intensity precisely because Davis kept his forces subdued elsewhere. He also coaxed the Philharmonia Chorus to some fine, controlled singing.

Richard Morrison

Timothy Wilson
Purcell Room

Timothy Wilson began his recital perched, jester-like, on a stool opposite his luteist, and ended it leaning against a Steinway, singing Schubert's "Litanei", as an encore, as if Lieder were what he knew and loved best in all the world. It was typical of his self-image: as early musician, as opera-actor, as Lieder recitalist, in short as singer first and counter-tenor second.

Not that the voice itself is by any means incidental. He knows its unusually wide range, its mellow changing colours, and its apparently effortless integration of registers, inside out. And he uses it with a total lack of cliché or manner which is as compelling as it is refreshing.

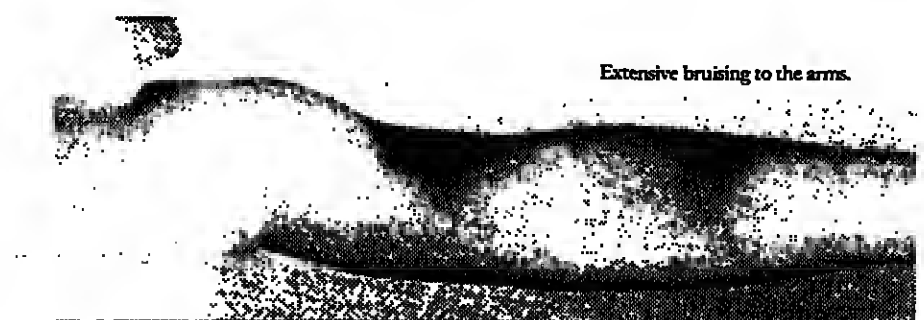
As an Ariel or Feste, he tuned his audience's ears anew to the skill of the Elizabethans, Robert Johnson and Thomas Morley. His "Full fathom five" showed no need to play the obvious acoustic game with its "ding-dong-bell" refrain: the tolling had already begun in his deep-anchored opening, so perfectly weighted and placed. No need, either, to wait for the refrain of "It was a lover": the cross-rhythms in each verse, springing out in his clean, agile diction, had already started the dance. Dorothy Linell, who had two most enjoyable solo hush spots of her own, was a keen-eared accompanist.

Wilson crossed from the artful contrivance of the lute-nists to the contrived artifice of Tippett's *Songs for Ariel* by way of Wolfgang Fortner. The early 1946 Shakespeare songs

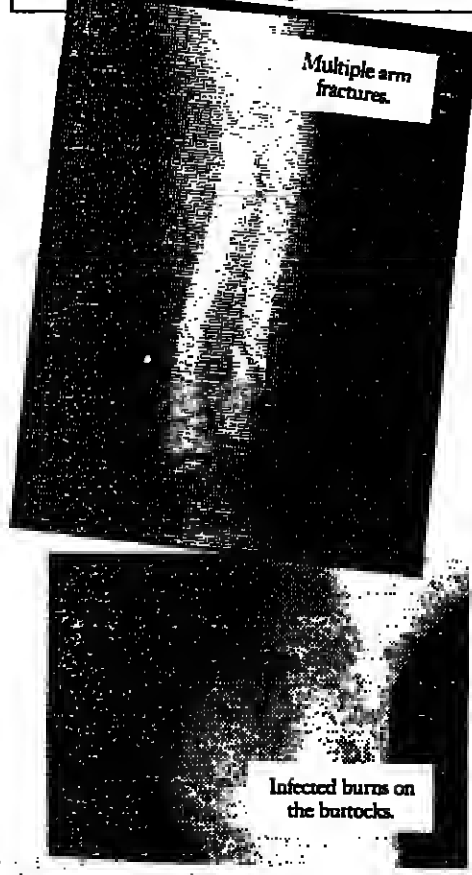
of Henze's teacher certainly deserve to be programmed more often, alongside, say, the Brahms and Strauss Shakespeare settings. Wilson and his pianist, Stephen Naylor, made much of the hypnotic recurring figure which turns back on itself throughout the bare "Willow, willow", and emphasized the harmonic astringency of "O Mistress Mine".

The evening ended with no less stylish performances of swing-style Shakespeare in the Arthur Young settings popularized by Laine and Dankworth.

Hilary Finch



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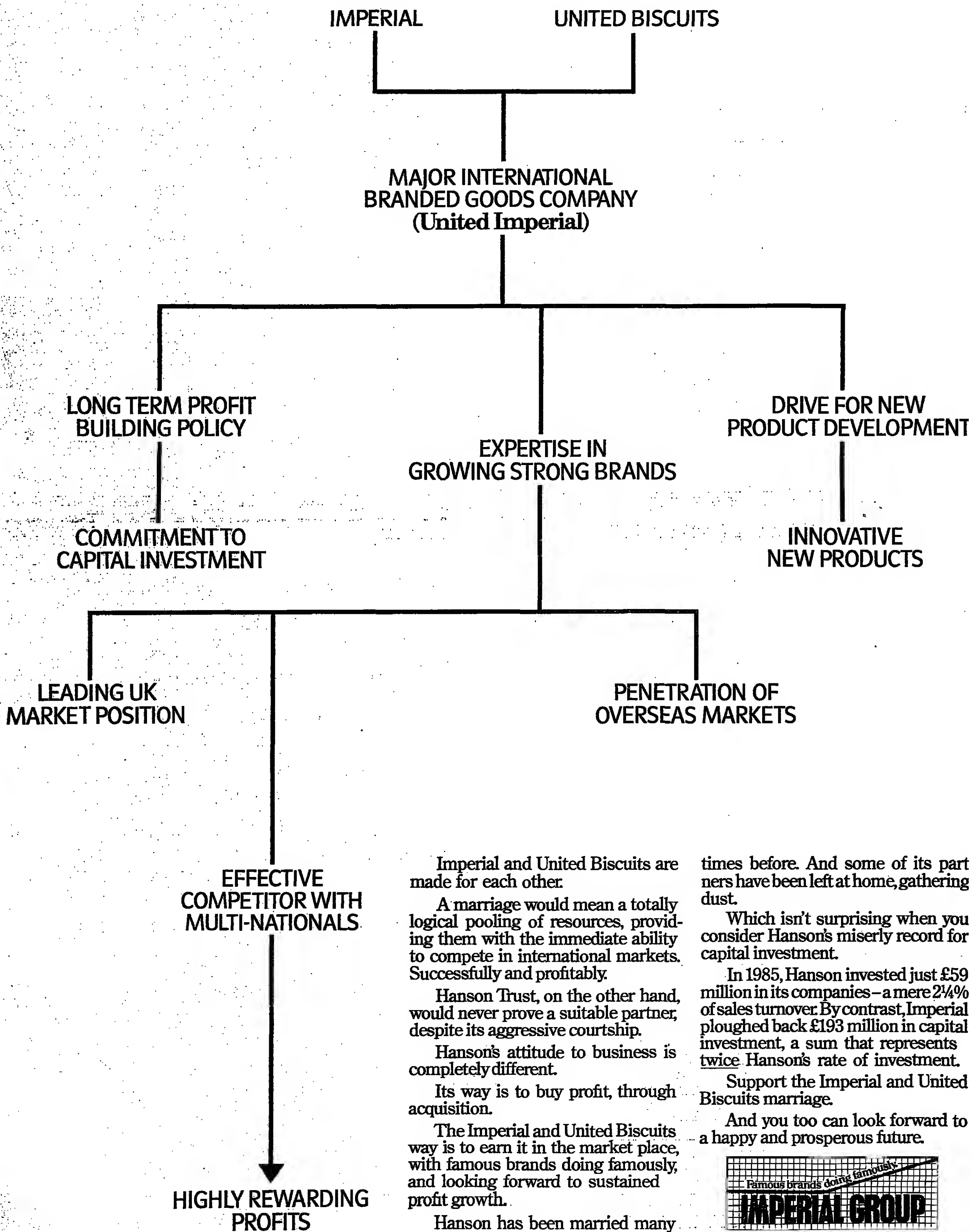
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Can Whitehall stay on the fence?

The Civil Service has survived the Thatcher revolution but the future still poses many threats to its traditions, as Colin Hughes reports in the last part of his series

Civil servants have endured the turmoil of cuts, leaks, secret trials and trade union tussles with their core instincts and attitudes intact. But can the system withstand the shocks in store?

The well-tried Whitehall method is for facing Monday morning: "Get out the file, and see what we did last time." But can civil servants' world-weary pragmatism, born of seeing red turn blue and back again without any obvious change in their day-to-day lives, cope with inexorable pressures that have been mounting for 20 years? Suspicions are growing that their crisis management horizons are too narrow for the day after tomorrow.

Sir Douglas Wass, former Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, is no revolutionary. But he has voiced a widely-felt unease that "recent developments must cause us as a society to examine whether we want to continue with the traditional relationship, the apoliticality of a career Civil Service".

'The Alliance will need a revolution in Whitehall'

Sir John Hoskyns, director-general of the Institute of Directors, has mounted a fierce criticism of government ever since leaving the Downing Street policy unit, challenging the comfortable myths that pervade Whitehall and Westminster. He matches, in many ways, the radical left's long-held belief that the Civil Service stands like a rock-fall barrier in the path of progress.

Hoskyns' argument goes further, starting with the blunt appraisal that Westminster simply does not contain enough people of the brains and ability needed to turn the ship of state, while Whitehall's backward-looking insularity lacks the vision necessary to grapple with an historic transformation in Britain's fortunes.

"When I was head of the policy unit we produced a document which showed that maintaining

present policies could mean average tax levels of 45 per cent a head by the end of the century, while the wealth-creating sector, private and public, was shrinking. The report was leaked, and the Government, Civil Service and politicians between them, backed off from a serious rethink of the Welfare State. But that doesn't mean the problems will go away."

He advocates injecting a fresh body of expertise into government, motivated both by political conviction and the drive to strike at the root of the malaise. It would mean, in effect, "shadow" teams of 10 to 20 officials per department, maintained like private offices in exile at parties' headquarters, at the taxpayer's expense.

Whitehall shrugs its collective shoulders. Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, accepts that the neutrality tradition is under strain from political polarization, but insists: "We have by no means reached the point where it's impossible."

But a similar attack is being mounted from new quarters. William Wallace, a Liberal adviser to David Steel, says the Alliance will need to institute "a revolution in Whitehall" if it comes to power. The myth that senior civil servants are natural social democrats under their neutral skin is based on the fallacy that impartial means centrist. Alliance politicians are deluding themselves if they believe Whitehall will respond with special enthusiasm to their ideas.

Wallace emphasizes the major items in the Alliance programme which are bound to meet strong resistance. The Civil Service proved, under the last Labour government, its natural impulse to dig in heels on any attempt to devolve political power from central government. Though many civil servants approve of repealing the Official Secrets Act and putting a Freedom of Information Act in its place, they might balk at a Bill of Rights which gave ordinary citizens undue licence to interfere.

Green environmental policies threaten the habitual philosophies of most main departments: Energy's commitment to pressurized water reactors for nuclear power, Agriculture's sympathy with the farming lobby, Transport's ambitions for lorries



and airports. Not least, proportional representation threatens political unpredictability which the Civil Service mind would rather not contemplate. As yet, prominent Alliance politicians have been tentative. Shirley Williams rejects the Armstrong Code principle of total Civil Service loyalty to ministers alone as "inadequate and disturbing". David Owen's approach is to propose breaking the security of tenure, and the culture of Buggins's Turn and pensions that goes with it.

But if the next general election results in a hung parliament, as seems possible, how would the bureaucrats greet a coalition government, relying on Alliance support? In a multi-party carve-up of ministries, the fear that civil servants would use the Whitehall bush telegraph to settle differences out of sight is understandable. Sir Patrick Nairne, former Permanent

'The winning party's red box will be waiting for it'

Secretary at the DHSS, wryly remarks: "A coalition government would have to hang together as best it could... after all, most Cabinets have an element of coalition about them."

This "so what's new?" scepticism runs deep, and the Alliance response so far is clearly inadequate. The best suggestion is the so-called "Cheshire rules", designed by the ruling group on Cheshire County Council to enable equal access to officials while guaranteeing political confidences. But central government is

a far cry from local authority; council committees have decision-making power, with an opposition representation unknown to the parliamentary constitution.

The Civil Service briefs are already being written for the day after the next general election, one set for each party, carefully kept secret and separate. Whichever party arrives in power the day after polling day, its first red box will be ready and waiting.

Mrs Thatcher was allowed access to selected senior civil servants before 1979, under the convention that policy is not discussed: organization arrangements - such as the practicalities of splitting Trade and Industry, or blending Education and Employment - are the only allowed topics between Opposition leaders and mandarins. If Kinock, Steel or Owen come to power, they will be denied sight of this Government's political papers.

Additional force is lent to pressure for overt political appointments into policy advice and administration by Clive Ponting's widely-held view that "the Civil Service is being put increasingly in the position of being the advocate of government policy in public", and outsiders are needed to "break the grip of the administrative class". Austin Mitchell, the Labour MP who is chairing a backbench inquiry into civil servants' duties and responsibilities, says that, although civil servants are coming before Select Committees more often, they merely act as ministers' mouthpieces.

Use of the Civil Service as an instrument of party political power while in government is well-established: the difference, and it is substantial, is that the co-ordinations are out in the open. Bernard Ingham, the Prime Minister's press secretary, is a civil servant supposedly bound by the tradition of service with "energy but without enthusiasm", but has become publicly identified with Mrs Thatcher personally and politically. He could not survive a change of government in his present post.

While many politicians sympathize with Hoskyns' criticisms of the system, few support his solutions. Labour members remember all too well Harold Wilson's Department of Economic Affairs, which brought in economists and political advisers as a counter to Treasury consensus. Civil servants nicknamed it the Department of Extraordinary Aggression, and left it high and dry.

This government has 22 special "political" advisers, mostly on five-year contracts, based in ministers' private offices around Whitehall. They are bright young Tories or experienced party hacks who act as agents for the minister, helping draft speeches, mixing with career officials in areas of departmental policy-making ministers cannot reach.

The slimmed-down policy unit at Downing Street mixes political advisers with career civil servants, but has nonetheless been seen as a nascent Prime Minister's department.

Eager civil servants, frustrated by the slow system, have been known to use it as an outlet for ideas which are making no headway. As one adviser says: "We do occasionally get discreet telephone calls from principals or under-secretaries who think that, where they have hit a brick wall, we have direct access to power, at the centre. It's partly an illusion, but it helps our intelligence-gathering: after all, they have a lot more

resources at their disposal and more administrative experience than we have."

Wallace's argument builds on that idea, saying that if all ministers - and maybe even Opposition parties as well - had such mini-departments of their own, it would restore genuine Cabinet government and enable well-informed political criticism. Such democratizing ambitions cut little ice elsewhere.

As one minister says: "The Civil Service is hardly a bionic man, capable of being beefed up into a superstar by transplant. It would simply reject the new organs and leave them to wither."

For the first time, civil servants have ceased to answer criticisms with the argument that Britain's bureaucracy is admired and modelled the world over. Christopher Tugendhat, former European Community Commissioner, says foreigners tend to respect the British system for its efficiency, professionalism, fairness and objectivity.

"People did feel it was a national asset to have a Civil Service that served governments of different parties with equal dedication and professionalism."

But, though the bureaucracy may be good at "doing what is told to do, that does not mean people would feel our political

'Foreigners tend to respect the British system for its fairness'

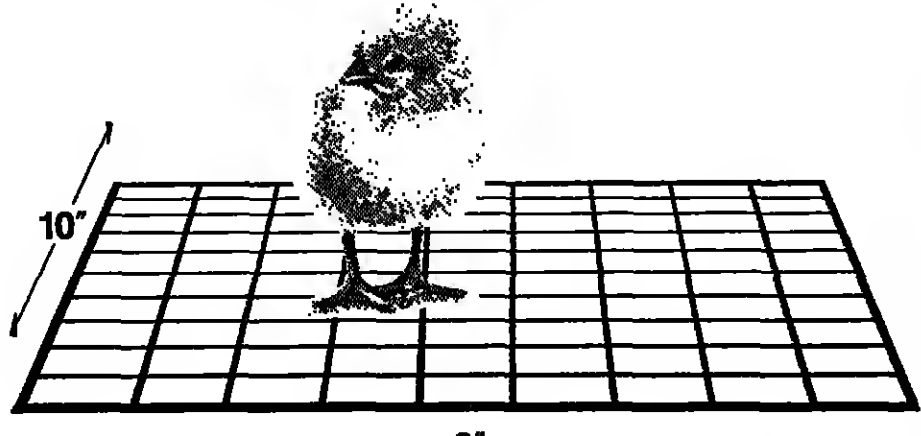
system is necessarily the most effective one going."

A recent exchange between Jim Callaghan and Austin Mitchell at the Civil Service Select Committee inquiry sums up scepticism about the need for change, and the contempt held by critics of the system for its outdated design.

Callaghan was asked, if there were to be a code for ministers describing their duties and responsibilities to civil servants, what should it say? One paragraph, he answered: "It is your responsibility to be polite, to be courteous, to listen what is said to you and absorb it, and be loyal to your Private Office so it can serve you to the best of its ability."

Mitchell retorted: "It sounds like a Boy Scout code." At which Callaghan came back, without a pause: "What's wrong with Boy Scouts?" And they belong to the same political party.

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The day of reckoning

A much maligned species can walk tall this year. Other men will commemorate a moment of history, but the estate agents of England can celebrate a monument to their craft in Domesday they have the greatest prospect ever compiled.

The fuss is not about heroic deeds or valuables unearthed, but about "det bug lge luge full CH". The abbreviations in the Domesday text are the counterpart of today's property columns. This is England in 1086, as Knight, Frank and Rutley might have described it.

The King was opening all his cupboards to inspect his inheritance. William at Gloucester, according to the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, "sent his men all over England, into every shire, and had them find out how many hundred hides

An exhibition opens tomorrow to mark 900 years since King William began the Domesday audit

there were in the shire, or what land and cattle the King himself had in the country, or what does he ought to have in twelve months from the shire. Also he had a record made of how much land his archbishops had, and his bishops and his abbots and his carls..."

You can feel the apprehension quickening as the chronicler goes on. "So very narrowly did he have it investigated that there was no single hide, nor a yard of land, nor many hides of land; how many ploughs owned by the lord and how many belonging to the men..." And so the list lengthens.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 909

ACROSS

- 1 Feil sharrow (6)
- 4 Sitting room (6)
- 7 Narrow road (4)
- 8 Drivel (8)
- 9 Unenlightened (8)
- 13 Male cat (3)
- 16 Free drink gas (16.7)
- 17 Be remorseful (3)
- 19 Quarrel fighting (8)
- 24 Siege (8)
- 25 Window shelf (4)
- 26 Prestige (6)
- 27 Yellowish (6)

DOWN

- 1 Soothe (4)
- 2 Animal show (9)
- 3 Drift (5)
- 4 Flax fabric (5)
- 5 Second-hand (4)
- 6 Polish (5)
- 10 Egg-shaped (5)
- 11 Make confused (5)
- 12 Norse giant (5)
- 13 Third anniversary (9)
- 14 Encounter (4)
- 15 Blemish (4)
- 18 German submarine (1-4)
- 20 Insist upon (5)
- 21 Sea golf course (5)
- 22 Solicit (4)
- 23 Defect (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 908

ACROSS: 1 Hansom 5 Cubs 8 Unity 9 Support 11 Relation 13 Ache 15 Commercialism 17 Loss 18 Spurious 21 Maestri 22 Vista 23 Troy 24 Notate

DOWN: 2 Ariel 3 Slay 4 Misconception 5 Cope 6 Branch 7 Curriculum 10 Thermostat 12 Trek 14 Fair 16 Masseur 19 Onset 20 Slay 23 Vet



To the manor born: Major John Shirley (centre); sons Philip (left) and Huw; and the family chapel, unchanged since 1086

generally takes to be around 100 to 120 acres. It is now rather larger, at 3,000 acres. Although the family still owns the manor, it is more than 80 years since a Shirley lived there.

The list was completed in a hurry and William was dead before the returns of the eastern circuit could be written up, so London was never included.

KNIGHT LIFE

Kenneth Pearson, who has stalked the centuries like Dr Who for his old employers, *The Sunday Times*, conjuring up Pharaohs, Vikings and 18th century soldiery in a series of exhibitions, has staged Domesday 900 in one of the most dramatic locations available, the 13th century Great Hall at Winchester. Inside, the tents of an invading army have been built, with a life-sized Norman knight on horseback peering balefully down from the entrance at those members of the public exercising their right of free access to the medieval Round Table hung on the wall inside.

The exhibition opens tomorrow at the Great Hall Winchester and runs every day until November 1 (10am-6pm, 10-5pm) during June, July and August. Admission: £2, children, OAPs, etc, £1. Family ticket £5.

Byron Rogers

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

Working, and staying mum

Concluding her series on the modern woman, Bel Mooney asks whether a career damages the mother-daughter relationship

They sat in the common room in Walsingham girls' comprehensive school, Clapham, south London — the mothers of tomorrow: a group of 16-year-olds who, though of mixed race, class and ability, showed remarkable uniformity of opinion. Are women and men equal? Not one hand up. Should they be? All hands up. How many want a family one day? All but one. How many will want a job as well as motherhood? All.

Amanda Coombes, Lisa Millett, Elaine Mitchell, Afi Ansab, Elaine Brooke, Jocelyn Amponsah, Lucia Spinelli and Maria Sylliss all have working mothers, all believe fathers should help with "mothering" — though their own did not. One said: "My mum keeps on at me to go to university because she never had the chance. It's part of being a parent, wanting your kids to do better."

Another: "Our mums have been made to think about all that and say: Yes, there's more to life than just being a mum." Another: "Yeah, they've been made to think it by us!"

So will they be different from their mothers? A moment of doubt: "There's a danger of it all slipping back — getting married and having kids and settling for staying at home. It's always one step forward and two steps back."

It would be impossible to imagine a friendlier, more independent group of girls — all born at the end of the Sixties, all but one admitting they did not want to be like their own mothers. Content to be a mother and have daughters the same? No. Think you can be independent-minded and a mother? Of course.

This generation of daughters has a confidence that must be bred of 20 years' pushing by other, older women. They assume that for them there will be choices.



'She does seem to spend a lot of time cleaning the house'

From a different background, Lindsay Hawdon echoes their views. She is 14, and a day girl at Kingswood School, Bath, a co-educational boarding school. Lindsay is determined to become an actress like her mother Sheila, who gave up the theatre when Lindsay was a baby because, "at the time I thought you were either a career woman or a wife and mother."

Now 39, Sheila Hawdon works as a marriage guidance counsellor and part-time drama teacher, and looks surprised when her daughter murmurs that Sheila's life seems "dull". "She does seem to spend a lot of time cleaning the house", says Lindsay. "I'd prefer to be in the theatre all the time."

Lindsay's scenario for her own future is clear. She wants to establish herself as an actress before having two children, and thinks it "natural" that her husband will help her bring up the children. She would stop work to have the babies, then go back. "The man I'd marry would think men and women are the same. I'd want him to encourage me, and I'd encourage him — otherwise it wouldn't work out."

Whence comes such confidence? The clue comes when Lindsay says

how influenced she is by her mother in judging acting performances. Despite the early decision to give up work, Sheila Hawdon is a woman of great wisdom, who does not live "through" her two daughters. "I'd like to think that whatever Lindsay does, it won't be for me. My own life is so interesting she doesn't have to achieve for me."



'I certainly had things to rebel against; my daughters don't'

But for some mothers, seeing their daughters "get on" is more important than perhaps they admit. If daughters can learn to define themselves through their mothers' denials, mothers can regain what they lost through what their daughters.

There is a hint of that with Mo Holland and her 17-year-old daughter Emma, a sixth former at a tough Cardiff comprehensive. Mo is married to the artist Harry Holland, always longed to study art herself, and is delighted Emma has a place on a Foundation course. "My parents thought I should get a job when I left school, so I ended up a secretary, and married Harry when I was 20. There was a far greater difference between my mother and me than there is between Emma and me. I certainly had things to rebel against, whereas Emma and her older sister do."

Emma Holland has a relaxed set of assumptions about her future include motherhood and a career, though she imagines the latter more vividly. On the surface that might seem strange, as her "role model" has always been at home. But Mo ascribes to the ideas of greater choice for women that were aired in the Sixties and Seventies, "so I've always tried to make the girls feel that." Emma shrugs: "I can't imagine having to prove I'm equal to any boy. I like men... but I don't know any girl who just wants to get married and have children. I think it's how the times are."

Mo says it will be "easier in general" for her daughter's generation: "You think about what you want their future to be. But in the end it must rest with them."



'I never wanted a mother at home because I never had one'

Of course, the ideology of motherhood is always most powerful when there are pressures to reduce the level of female employment, or anxiety about the poor quality of the nation's children. There are signs of that today.

Yet when women are needed in the workforce (at a time of war, for example), national nursery facilities are expanded, and the importance of constant mothering is underplayed. Then guilt is the burden carried by the working mother, and the "bigger" the career the greater the guilt.

If all the young girls who hope one day to have a job and be mothers

could meet Helen and Elizabeth Westwood, they would feel reassured. Helen is bureau chief at the American Broadcasting Corporation's London office, one of only four women to have such a position in the whole of the ABC news division. A miner's daughter from a small Pennsylvania town, she had a mother who was "a nice apple-pie lady who taught her girls how to cook, bake and embroider."

At university Helen majored in physics and was first in her year; she later joined The New York Times. Elizabeth was born in 1963, when Helen had "woken up" to the opportunities for women in broadcasting and joined ABC. She never considered not working.

"It didn't bother me", says 22-year-old Elizabeth, and tells of "nice people" who helped look after her, of accompanying her mother to work and meeting adults. "Sure, I would spend summers at my grandmother's and it was nice. But going to work with my mother was exciting. I never wanted a mother at home because I never had one. I always felt my friends' mothers weren't as good as mine, because they stayed at home and she was out there doing something."

Helen was successful academically; Elizabeth gave up her art course, to her mother's disappointment. Helen has achieved a distinguished serious career, Elizabeth has done some modelling and is now set to launch herself on the pop world with her band Westworld. Helen supports her: "It's hard for an only child. I wanted her to be everything: an ice-skater, a beautiful movie-star-lawyer-doctor all rolled into one. Glamorous but level-headed, Elizabeth sketches out her own future: it involves success and self-sufficiency in the foreground, with children in the background when she is approaching 30.

Helen's husband has an important job in Washington (the new transatlantic marriage); Elizabeth lives with her mother in her airy Kensington flat. They are more like friends than mother and daughter. Elizabeth explains why: "Oh, it's the way she accepted me in everything I wanted to do, and backed me. I am proud of what she has achieved, being a woman. And if I am confident now, look at the model I have! The biggest influence in my life is my mother."



Stage-struck: Sheila and Lindsay Hawdon share one ambition at least.



Duet ambitions: for Emma Holland, as taught by mother Mo



Best friends: Helen Westwood supports daughter Elizabeth in everything she does

Making safety child's play

How parents can help to tackle the terrifying increase in child abuse cases

Last week the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty for Children published figures revealing that the number of British children reporting sexual abuse had doubled in 1985.

It was a similar and equally shocking statistic — that up to 46 per cent of all American children are sexually assaulted in some way by the age of 18 — that spurred teacher and psychologist Sherryl Kerns Krazier to create a training programme for children on personal safety. The programme formed part of an Emmy award winning television documentary, illustrating how vulnerable children are to people they trust.

As author of The Safe Child, 36-year-old Mrs Krazier believes there is only one person who can protect a youngster — the child itself. "At the moment of risk, the only things our children can fall back on are their own instincts and the training we have given them."

Sherryl Krazier is one of the leading experts in safety training for children in the United States. The fact that in Britain the majority of cases also involve an adult the child trusts is, she says, all the more reason why youngsters must be taught from an early age that they can say "no" to their teacher, step-parent or neighbour, if something seems wrong.

Just as children are taught to ride a bike, swim and cross the road safely, so they must be taught responsibility for their own body, she says. "Simply as a first step in prevention, you can tell your children that their body belongs to them, that they have a right to say who touches them and how, and that it's okay to say 'No, stop it', and that person should stop."

This approach can begin at two, when a youngster discovers the magic power of the words "yes" and "no". As aunt to her sister's pre-schoolers, Mrs Krazier discovered that even small children know instinctively if excessive tickling, hugs and kisses from a trusted person seems disturbing, and this is the time to encourage them to speak up.

"Abuse is a delicate subject to raise", agrees Mrs Krazier. "But just let your children know you have some new ideas and rules you'd like to discuss. Most children are astonishingly receptive to this simple approach."

Rather than a formal, perhaps frightening, conversation between parent and child, Mrs Krazier has created a "What If?" game using the youngster's natural enthusiasm for a new skill as a springboard for spontaneous

discussion. The parent poses simple questions like "What if mummy was in the shower and there was a knock on the door?" to the more worrying "What if a stranger bothered you?" in this relaxed environment, children are encouraged to talk — and their parents or teacher encouraged to listen.

The NSPCC has pointed out that traditionally children have not been listened to — often with disastrous consequences. Now their social workers are trained to believe in a child, a policy supported by Mrs Krazier.

Almost without exception children do not lie about sexual abuse, except in decay that it happened", she says. "Children don't normally have access to descriptions of sexual activities, so it's not really possible for them to make up sexual abuse. Children who can talk about this abuse in detail have experienced it."

Sometimes adults — usually by the mother — do not wish to hear the truth. Often the abuser is her boyfriend, the child's father or new stepfather. Believing that abuse should be stamped out before it settles into a long-term pattern, Mrs Krazier hopes that teaching the "What If?" game at pre-school stage can prepare a child for dilemmas in later life.

"It is important to talk about what they should do if mum or dad their parents or someone else in the family asks them to do something, they know they shouldn't."

Until the publication of the NSPCC's alarming figures last week, parental admonition not to take sweets from a stranger seemed warning enough. Now the problem is much more disturbing. But there are ways of giving a child confidence without turning him or her into a nervous introvert, Mrs Krazier says.

If you have to ask a neighbour to do the school run at short notice, always give her a family code word, so a child knows it is safe to enter her car. Teach your child to stay at least an arm's length from an unknown adult so he or she can keep a discreet eye on the person and remain in control.

Training your own children is one thing, but knowing the rules with other people's children is equally important. Mrs Krazier approached a seemingly lost child in a shopping centre. "He did everything right, kept an arm's length away from me and said he was going to the cashier for help. My first reaction was to be hurt. After all, I knew I was an OK person. Theo I realized he was doing precisely what I teach in schools."

Even the experts are learning.

Suzanne Greaves

The Safe Child by Sherryl Kerns Krazier (Futura, £1.95) is published on April 3.

Teachers don't have to be taut

About 40 teachers, mostly from London, did something unusual earlier this month: they did not discuss the dispute, talk about pay or the minutiae of supervision rotas. They sat in a hall, shut their eyes and tried to imagine the ideal school.

It was an exercise that initially met with scepticism. It had been preceded by a 10-minute morning session that had produced the familiar catalogue of educational woes: drunk colleagues; lack of facilities; widespread stealing and no communication with fellow teachers. They were fired up with the awful impossibility of it all.

But a calm spread. The tense faces relaxed as they were asked to imagine waking up in the morning full of enthusiasm because they were going to their ideal school. Stand outside the gates for a moment. Watch the faces of the children. Notice how they look going to an ideal school. Now go inside."

The speaker was Guy Claxton, director of teacher training at Kings College, London, who for the past year has been running Education Network workshops for teachers who are demoralized and depressed by their working conditions and want to rediscover the idealism that made them take up the profession. Education Network began about three years ago when half a dozen like-minded teachers starting meeting regularly to discuss their calling. The Network ran its first



workshop last year, at £15 a head, and it also produces a small magazine.

Slim and bearded, with a light and easy manner, Claxton began by talking about his Amstrad. "I've just got one of those computers and all my metaphors are computing at the moment. Today is a chance to see if the programs we are running are the ones that are the most fulfilling and productive."

A few weeks earlier I had attended a support group run by Claxton for those who had done the workshop and found it helpful to have somewhere to go to talk about their hopes and secret terrors. As one of the teachers said: "The whole school system is an emotional no-go area. We don't teach the children to value and express their emotions. What I get out of coming here is that I find others are experiencing the same feelings as me and I'm not going crazy."

ed to explain that she wanted to tell her deputy head how strongly she disagreed with her but kept quiet because she was afraid she would not express herself clearly. She was obviously distressed, and Claxton, who was sitting behind her, began to massage her neck. "Stop touching me", she said. "I want to cry." The rest of the room laughed nervously but in sympathy.

"Is there anything else you want to say without worrying about who's listening?" Claxton inquired. Suddenly words and tears tumbled out together: "I love my school and I'm frightened she is going to spoil it." Sobs punctuated her words. "I'm not going to let her."

"I'm not going to tell you what to do", Claxton commented, "but the possibility is that if you talk to her the way you talked to us, she is going to understand you."

The rest of the morning was less dramatic but two constant themes emerged. One was the fear that teachers have of authority and how hard they

find it to talk to senior teachers. The other was the widespread feeling of not being appreciated.

The one piece of personal philosophy apparently shared by everyone in the support group was the idea that people are responsible to some degree for their problems.

"Whenever we feel threatened or rejected or worried about looking foolish", Claxton said at one point, "we stop living according to our lights. Our defensive mechanisms start working and we forget our vision." Then came the clincher. "Stress is the unwanted by-product of the reaction to demanding circumstances ineptly handled."

At once there was a roar from the side of the hall. "I'm angry", declared a tall, bearded man. "I'm not ready for all this enlightenment stuff. I'm a secondary teacher in south-east London with mixed-ability, multi-racial classes. When I have a difficult class it's not because I'm inept." But as he talked his anger faded and he went on to talk about the need for greater professionalism.

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Advertisement for a desk. Text: 'DESK £75' 'Desk for computer, mini-office or study. Plus storage from cubes to wardrobes, shelving, insectiles, etc.' Includes a photo of the desk.

Advertisement for Jerome Burne. Text: 'Jerome Burne The Education Network, 13 Clovelly Road, London W5' Includes a photo of Jerome Burne.

THE TIMES DIARY

Tripoli alliance

While the bombs are dropping thick and fast in Libya...

Rolling stump

Lightest moment in the dark days for English cricket...

Ad-Libbing

You could tell that Liberal QC Louis Blom-Cooper was treading on thin ice...

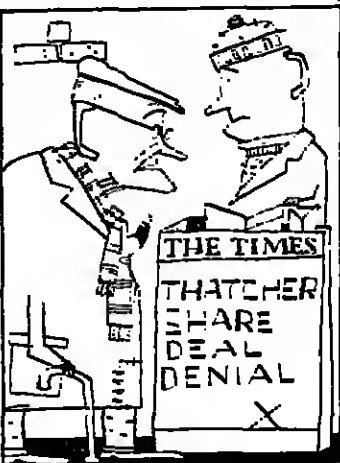
Fair shares

Lord Whitelaw certainly knew what to do with his shares...

Head start

Blackpool could be more than usually busy this year...

BARRY FANTONI



'You can't blame her. It's no fun living on a state pension'

Musical break

Despite the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales...

Out of place

The only mystery about the appointment of Bill Bush...

PHS

Reagan's misjudged reprisal

Robert Fisk considers the likely outcome of the Sixth Fleet strike against Libya

The Americans have had Colonel Gaddafi in their gun sights for a long time...

That, at least, seems to be the American assumption...

Just how stunned the Russians are by the whole affair...

promising to pay \$1,000 million over three years...

Nevertheless, Moscow cannot shrug off the huge military investment...

Indeed, it does stretch the imagination to go on regarding the Sixth Fleet perambulations...

"Blünder" in Nato terminology, 143 MiG-23s...

Many of these machines are believed to be in storage...

Indeed, it does stretch the imagination to go on regarding the Sixth Fleet perambulations...

missile crews. Libyan involvement in the killings at Rome and Vienna airports...

Unfortunately, the political results of military action in the Middle East rarely turn out to be as satisfactory as their initiators intend...

Gaddafi's standing in the Arab world has again been augmented: he is not the only Arab leader to have been in conflict with the "American imperialists"...

Richard Dowden on the plight of Yugoslavia's oppressed Serbs

Ulster of the Balkans

Belgrade It is almost impossible to squeeze into the front door of the Serbian Writers Club on a Monday night...

Mitar Saric has become a symbol of Serbian victimization in a province where Albanian nationalists have subjected their Serbian neighbours to attacks and intimidation...

The rise of Albanian irredentism, as it is called here, and the furious reaction of the Serbs, is the greatest threat to the stability of Yugoslavia since the war...

Mrs Saric, Mitar's mother, complained to the local authorities but got nowhere and came to Belgrade, where she met officials from the Serbian party...

"We had no one from whom to seek assistance or protection," Mrs Saric said. "We feel they are all against us..."

Conservative MP Richard Holt has presented the Commons with a bill under the Ten Minute Rule designed to bring leading non-Anglican religious leaders into the House of Lords...

Put on an ecumenical bench in the Lords is an old chestnut of an idea. It is surely only right, the argument goes...



Tito: appeasement



Hoxha: emotive slogan



Yugoslav painter has since housed them in his Belgrade home and the equivalent of £2,150 was collected for the family...

Sixty thousand Serbs in Kosovo, meanwhile, have signed a petition demanding action and warning: "We can no longer tolerate the genocide carried out against us and our families..."

To the Serbs, predominantly Orthodox Christians, Kosovo has a symbolic sacredness not unlike that of Londonderry to Ulster Protestants...

The Roman Catholic Church has numerically a very strong case. Churchgoers for churchgoers, it matches the Church of England, and in the United Kingdom as a whole it is the largest denomination in terms of regular church attendance...

Against that background, there is no chance of British Catholic prelates accepting nomination to the House of Lords. And without that, the Anglican prelates are refusing to be enlisted, and the Anglican bench will have to soldier on alone.

The local Albanian party chiefs are less than fully committed to Yugoslav unity and while preaching fraternalism between Yugoslav nations turn a blind eye to their compatriots' excesses against the Serbs...

But Serbia, which dominated its neighbours when its kingdom embraced them, has not many friends among the other republics. All except Macedonia have their ancient reasons for being quietly pleased at the Albanian resurgence against Serbia...

Asked what he thought the outcome would be, a neutral observer living in Pristina said: "I think Kosovo will soon be ethnically pure. Then, if Yugoslavia is to be kept together, they will have to send in the army."

The Roman Catholic Church has numerically a very strong case. Churchgoers for churchgoers, it matches the Church of England, and in the United Kingdom as a whole it is the largest denomination in terms of regular church attendance...

Behind the issue is the unresolved place of the House of Lords in national life. Successive governments have been tempted to abolish it, or reform it by making it truly representative of a certain nature strand in the nation, a council of elders of every kind of background or experience...

official death toll was nine, but journalists working there at the time, whose reporting was strictly censored, put the figure much higher, with at least six policemen killed. Since then the nationalists have gone underground, armed themselves and disseminated literature...

The literature seized with them used Marxist-Leninist terminology and called for the unity of all Albanian people, proclaiming "Long live Enver Hoxha", the former president of Albania...

The party makes encouraging noises about stopping irredentist propaganda in schools and the like, but the party line does not seem convincing in the bleak, gritty streets of Pristina, filled with poor Albanian peasants...

There are strong suspicions that the local Albanian party chiefs are less than fully committed to Yugoslav unity and while preaching fraternalism between Yugoslav nations turn a blind eye to their compatriots' excesses against the Serbs...

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David Selbourne No muzzling Militant

Today's hearing by Labour's national executive committee on the activities of the Liverpool wing of the Revolutionary Socialist League...

For the importance of what is going on is not to be found in the artifice of barrack-room charge and counter-charge as to Militant "subversion" and intimidation...

But, more important, Militant's local strength in Liverpool is the product of Labour's long-standing internal policy confusion...

Indeed, the problem for the Labour Party is that the hard-punching, lumpen "Trotskyism" which has been brought to this task of civic defence has not the bluff of Labour's own conference...

And the city needs it: Liverpool has 25 per cent unemployment - 80 per cent in the Vauxhall ward - 56,000 households on supplementary benefit, and 50,000 domestic ratepayers not entitled to receive rebates...

Indeed, the problem for the Labour Party is that the hard-punching, lumpen "Trotskyism" which has been brought to this task of civic defence has not the bluff of Labour's own conference...

moreover... Miles Kington

Perils of a real Pauline

Among all the long tributes to the late Ray Milland I saw no reference to his very early film, The Flying Scotsman...

My access to this forgotten treasure came about because last year I was involved in making half a dozen programmes for the BBC about steam railways...

The Ray Milland film was undoubtedly the star of the collection, because it featured a cinematic last reel in which the driver gets into a fight with the fireman...

The LNER let the film company have a Hertfordshire loop line all to themselves for four consecutive weekends...

John Huntley said it was Ray Milland's first film. The story was that Milland, a coalman from South Wales, had a job with the film company as stagehand while they were casting for the Flying Scotsman film...

Unfortunately, the recent tributes had quite another story. Milland's father was in coal: it was true, but as a coal-owner, Ray was a well-off young man who had spent a year in the Household Cavalry, and who was spotted at a trendy London party by a producer who thought he had the looks of a film star...

lated by the average Scouser into one foreign body.

Throughout the Labour movement it is open season for every Tom, Dick and Harry to assert the necessity of his tactic, his strategy and his "vision" for the socialist future...

There is, in other words, no Labour consensus in Liverpool, nor one to be discovered in London, even if the Labour manifesto will in the end give a plethora of "positions", ranging from Phlatine workerist to arm-twisting centrists in search of the middle ground...

Indeed, Kinnock, leading the inquiry from behind - though conceding the fact - has allowed himself to be simultaneously egged on and browbeaten by yet another Tammany Labour faction in Liverpool: the crusading anti-Militant, many of them in the Vauxhall ward-party, for whom Trotskyism is the work of the devil...

And what is certain is that Militant will not be dislodged from the city - investigations, surcharges, expulsions and disqualifications notwithstanding. With a snottoke ketchup bottle in one hand and a volume of Trotsky in the other...

Labour's NEC, no stranger itself to Militant's methods - can go on trying to do its worst, but the Revolutionary Socialist League, one way or another, will survive the huffing and puffing of its critics.

David Selbourne is the author of Against Socialist Illusion: A Radical Argument (Macmillan).

Clifford Longley Religious affairs correspondent



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

THE BATTLE OF SIRTE

US ships were present in the Gulf of Sirte on Monday despite warnings from the Libyan regime of Colonel Gaddafi that it had been declared Libyan territorial waters. To cross the "line of death" into it, the Libyans had threatened, would invite justified military retaliation.

Is there, in fact, any validity in the Libyan territorial claim to the Gulf of Sirte under international law? Plainly not. Gulf waters can be absorbed into a nation's territory only when they are 24 miles across or less. The Gulf of Sirte is 275 miles in extent. Not surprisingly, therefore, the Libyan claim has little support. Only Burkina Faso endorses it, and both Moscow and radical Arab states friendly to Colonel Gaddafi are opposed to it.

That being so, the U.S. Sixth Fleet was defending the right of passage through international waters by being present in the Gulf. The initial Libyan attack was therefore aggressive and the American response legally justified.

That much was conceded in yesterday's Commons exchanges by Mr Neil Kinnock. What he and other critics of the American action maintain, however, is that the initial U.S. presence in the Gulf was an unnecessary provocation and that its subsequent use of retaliatory force was excessive.

The concept of provocation, however, is a slippery one. Colonel Gaddafi's claim to the Gulf and his threats to enforce it, on the face of it, even more provocative than the American defiance. But they are not seen in that light, perhaps because the Libyan leader is thought to be so irrational that it is useless to judge his actions by the usual criteria of international relations.

Similarly, even if the U.S. action is criticised as needless provocation, it was always open to the Libyans not to

respond to it. That is, after all, the reaction urged by Mr Kinnock upon the Americans. In short, the argument of provocation is used to exculpate the Libyans for making an unlawful claim upon international waters and for employing aggression to enforce it; also to condemn the U.S. for defending its maritime rights under international law. It is difficult to regard it as a serious argument.

Whether the U.S. response was disproportionate is a matter of judgment on two levels. There is a perfectly straightforward military argument for taking no chances when dealing with an unpredictable regime which has equipped itself with advanced missile systems. Even a weak opponent can do great damage if unrestrained by normal prudence. And it would be a disaster, both internationally and domestically, for the Reagan administration if it suffered the loss of a naval vessel at Libyan hands.

But it is the political argument for a strong response that raises the more interesting questions. The Libyan regime has demonstrated an utter contempt for international norms of behaviour in numerous ways. It has invaded neighbouring countries, sought to subvert others, sponsored assassinations of Libyan exiles abroad and given support, training and sanctuary to terrorist groups which have then hijacked American civil airliners and mounted attacks in West European airports.

Yet the Reagan administration has found itself, in the psychological language now employed in international affairs, "frustrated" in its response to this lawlessness. Western European countries have refused to join in American sanctions against Libya, thus undermining what was an already weak reprisal. And the opinions of both allies and

ANONYMITY OF RAPE VICTIMS

From Dr B. S. Markesinis
Sir, The continuing reluctance of the police to publish photographs of suspect rapists may or may not be justified, given the wording of section 6(1) of the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act, 1976. But by attracting public attention to this long and in many respects unfortunate enactment, these incidents may help alert Parliament to yet another of its defective provisions.

This is section 4(1) which, while purporting to protect the anonymity of rape victims, actually achieves this laudable aim in a patchy and deficient manner. For in the first place the sanction provided in the event of a breach of this provision — a maximum fine of £500 — is unlikely to deter the unscrupulous publisher. Secondly, only victims of "rape offences", as defined in section 7(2), are protected by the statute. Equally heinous victims of other sexual offences, for example indecent assault, incest or buggery are thus excluded from the protective ambit of the Act (and may not always be covered by other enactments).

English law has been known to put up with a certain amount of illogicality and inconsistency. But to make privacy for the victim depend on who penetrates whom with what and where appears quite absurd. And even the victims of rape are inadequately protected if the prosecution drops the rape charge for a guilty plea to a different, lesser, sexual offence. In such cases a conviction can be obtained at the high price of losing one's right to anonymity.

Despite an increasing number of important judicial pronouncements concerning aspects of human privacy, Parliament (and many academics) have taken a hostile view towards recognising a wider right of privacy such as exists in other systems. One of the arguments often put forward for this stance is the difficulty of defining privacy and of balancing the competing interests of anonymity and freedom of speech.

But in the present type of situation the difficulties of definition, which have been a cause or an excuse for parliamentary inactivity, disappear since we are dealing with a narrow and clearly defined issue. Would it therefore be too much to hope that the legislators will turn their attention to this deficiency of the 1976 Act when drafting the Criminal Justice Bill?

After all, how many times must one make the point that not everything that interests the public should be published in the public interest?

Yours truly,
BASIL S. MARKESINIS,
Trinity College,
Cambridge,
March 25.

DOUBT ON ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS BILL

From Mr Richard D. Ryder and others
Sir, We would like to support the views of Commons, it is more than unfortunate that such attention as has been given to it in the media has largely concentrated on the extremes of the subject — the scientists who want no control on their activities versus the total abolitionists.

It is therefore hardly surprising that the responsible middle ground occupied by, among others, the RSPCA has been ignored or misrepresented.

It must be obvious to all that a scientific Act 110 years old has to be replaced, and thus the RSPCA welcomed the Government's initiative in facing this fact. However, contrary to the impression given by some, including Ministers, the society has offered support for the Bill itself only if the changes which we regard as critical are incorporated.

Each of these changes is aimed at the prevention of pain in laboratory animals and should therefore have the support of all humane people. In summary, the RSPCA's criteria are:

1. The so-called "termination condition", which specifies that an animal must be humanely killed if suffering severe pain, must be inviolable and made part of the Act itself, not just the guidelines.
2. Project licence holders must be required to demonstrate relevant competence to prevent and relieve pain. Inspectors must be informed when a neuro-muscular blocking agent such as curare is to be used and an anaesthetist or similarly qualified person must monitor anaesthesia in such cases.
3. A competent person must be available to monitor the condition of laboratory animals at all times.
4. The monitoring body, the Animal Procedures Committee, must be invited to comment on all licence applications for procedures involving the maximum permitted levels of pain or distress.
5. The committee should also scrutinise all applications for experiments to improve manual skills, since these represent a widening of the existing law.
6. The RSPCA has reported many examples of experiments involving unacceptable severity which have been permitted under the 1876 Act. The present Bill must be amended on the above lines if the new Act is to deal adequately with what must be its central purpose — the prevention of pain and suffering in animal experiments.
7. Yours faithfully,
R. D. RYDER (clinical psychologist),
A. WALTER (laboratory technician cancer research),
HAROLD HEWITT (retired experimental pathologist),
GILL LANGLEY (biologist),
WILLIAM JORDAN (veterinary surgeon),
Hay House,
Haytor Vale,
Devon,
March 7.

From the Chairman of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Council
Sir, With the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Bill having reached a critical stage in its passage through

ON THIS DAY

March 26 1985

The first civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery was on March 7 when the 600 black people who took part were driven back by state troopers using batons and tear gas. Following a court injunction ordering Governor Wallace to refrain from harassing the march, President Johnson mobilised National Guardsmen and military police to protect it, and 3,200 people set out on March 21. On the 30th the governor received a 16-man delegation bearing a petition for black rights.

"WE SHALL OVERCOME"

From Our Own Correspondent
WASHINGTON, MARCH 25
The civil rights march on Montgomery, the state capital of Alabama and the first seat of the Confederate Government, ended today without incident. The marchers appear not to have much eroded the defences of this bastion of white supremacy, but clearly they have achieved their first purpose of rallying national support for the new voting Bill.

Thousands of Negroes and whites came from all parts of the country to join in this symbolic act of inter-racial unity in a city proud to call itself the heart of Dixie. Some had walked only from the terminal or railway station, and among the galaxy of film stars and other entertainers there may have been a few publicity seekers; no matter, the impact upon the national conscience seems to have been enormous.

As was expected, Mr. Wallace, the Governor, refused to receive representatives of the marchers, whose number had risen to about 17,000. He was willing to accept a petition from citizens of Alabama, should they present themselves "in a proper and moral manner", but only after the marchers had dispersed.

The long column of marchers, who approached the Capitol building singing "We shall overcome" and shouting "Freedom", gathered to listen to their leaders, who came armed with a petition. It said in part:

"We come petitioning you to join us in spirit and in truth what is history's movement toward the Great Society: a nation of justice where one shall prey upon the weakness of the other; a nation of plenty where greed and poverty shall be done away; a nation of brotherhood where success is founded upon service and not given for nothing alone. . . . We have come, not only five days and 30 miles but we have come from three centuries of suffering and hardship and have come to you, the Governor of Alabama, to declare that we must have our freedom now and we must have equal protection of the law and an end to police brutality."

For the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, the Negro leader, it was a return to the beginnings of his non-violent movement. It was in Montgomery in 1955 and 1956 that he organized the bus strike after a Negro woman had refused to give up a seat to a white. When that small beginning is recalled one can see how far the movement has come in less than a decade.

Then thousands of Negro labourers and charwomen trudged miles to and from work day after day, month after month, each for a total distance far greater than the 54 miles from Selma. By comparison, the arduous of the march for the few hundreds who set off from Brown's Chapel in that unhappy town were easily supportable, but complete it they did in spite of rain and southern snafus and the reward should be something more than the right to sit in a bus.

At the beginning of the march, Dr. King said: "Walk together children. Don't get weary, and it will lead you to the promised land." Today the organizers warned the marchers not to talk to unknown people or answer back, and go straight home after the march. The Army, the National Guard and F.B.I. agents were much in evidence, and altogether the promised land could not have looked very promising. . . .

BUSINESSMEN CAUTIOUS

The business community, which has hopefully boosted the city as the home of progress, was more cautious. Racial antagonism does not always frighten away industry. Both Selma and Birmingham are doing well, but Montgomery does have an unsavoury reputation for violence and businessmen called for restraint. A local newspaper advised its readers to ignore the march.

Overall, however, were two disciplines: the discipline of federal authority personified by armed troops standing on every street corner, and the Negro discipline of non-violence. The first was clearly necessary today, but only the second will carry the country to the promised land which Dr. King describes with such religious fervour.

President Johnson said this afternoon that things were going well in Montgomery. . . .

MAYOR DALEY WOULD APPROVE

So much for the brave new world of municipal socialism. What has been on display at County Hall in the last days of the Greater London Council is good old-fashioned patronage on a scale that would have done credit to Mayor Daley of Chicago.

Political service has not lacked for rewards. Staff appointed by the Labour GLC or short term contracts as advisers and heads of the ubiquitous units have moved — so easily — into permanent positions in the Inner London (Interim) Education Authority, with voluntary bodies (funded by compulsory levy), and with the Labour-controlled boroughs.

As far as anyone knows, which given the public's breadth of ignorance about activities within County Hall is not far, nothing contrary to law has happened in the recent rash of appointments. It is up to Mrs Frances Morrell to choose her own personal assistant, and sadly it will make little difference to the condition of London schools that her chosen aide is until the weekend the personal assistant to Mr Ken Livingstone.

Westminster City Council has attempted in the courts to thwart the GLC's efforts to leave a handsome financial legacy to favourite beneficiaries. But the destination of the GLC's employees has not been challenged.

After the amounts of money

that have been spent over the past few years on dubious public purposes this rush of last-minute appointments may, indeed, seem scarcely worth a second glance. And yet they are. For Mr Livingstone has come to take on a heroic, even a martyred air as the Government, for no good reason, proceeded with the abolition exercise. His claim to speak for Londoners against an authoritarian central government has gained credence.

The recent jobs and grants bonanza puts the Labour administration in a different light. For it shows that Labour also stands for publicly financed incomes for a new elite cadre of political hangers on and fixers: these too have been a facet of the GLC story.

Municipal patronage, it should be said, has had less and less scope the further one looks into useful functions. The disposal of London's waste, protection of the capital against fire, these services are untainted. But in "public relations" and administration and the new class of "advisory" jobs the qualifications are much vaguer. Mrs Morrell can say, for example, of the ILEA's new head of external relations that his political service at the GLC is a qualification: but that only reflects the growing incoherence about the purposes of many municipal jobs.

A common reflex in the 1980s, when confronted by these latter day tales of municipal misbehaviour is to send for the civil servants, making the implicit judgement that somehow central politics are more sanitary and central officials more trustworthy than local. The judgement is moot. It was, after all, the Department of the Environment which made grandiose claims for the savings from abolition and which has since kept mightily silent as its creature committees, aided and abetted by its rate support apportionments, have kept the spending show on the road.

In an ideal world, the managers of the ILEA would soon be called to book. Elections are to be held in May for the new authority. Labour's administration of Loodoo's schools, its preoccupation with sex and race initiatives over against the core quality of schooling and their relationship with employment will, in principle, be up for voters' judgement. It will be sad, very sad, if London parents, Loodoo citizens do not go out to register their hopes for public education. For the local ballot box alone (within a reformed system of local finance) is the way to regulate this public service.

Where better than on the hustings to explain and justify jobs for the boys?

HOSPITAL PRESSURES

From Dr B. J. Boughton
Sir, Professor Shuster's letter of March 15 describes major shortages of medical equipment in the Newcastle teaching hospitals. Other hospitals could tell a similar story but his account tells less than the whole truth, and the public should be reassured that there is no failure to replace vital medical equipment.

In my own experience the reason for long equipment "replacement lists" is the premature withdrawal of maintenance contracts by private equipment manufacturers. This arbitrary action is for commercial reasons and it is common knowledge that the health service is

JUSTICE FOR DEBTORS

From the Deputy Director of the National Consumer Council
Sir, Bernard Levin does neither Sir Gordon Borrie nor the debtors about whom he expressed concern justice in his article "Nanny cannot save us all from our folly" (March 14).

First, some facts. Debt is a real and growing problem. Every year over one and a half million "money claims" are started in the county courts. In the five years from 1979 to 1984, the Finance Houses Association reported that the number of accounts of their members with two or more payments in arrears grew from 5 per cent to 7 per cent.

In the year ending June, 1985, two and a half million consumers had difficulty meeting their heating bills. The number of properties repossessed for non-payment of mortgages went up five times between 1979 and 1984.

Nor are the people who get into debt generally fleckless idiots. Research shows that the classic case of debt problems is someone on a

relatively low income who takes on, in good faith, a credit commitment and then cannot meet it because of an unforeseen disaster, unemployment, a death or illness in the family, the break-up of a marriage.

One way of helping people to avoid such a situation is better information. The National Consumer Council strongly supports the suggestion that the credit industry should help to support better information services for those faced with an ever-extending choice of more and more complex credit offers.

This is not, *pace* Mr Levin, a nanny state at work. It is sound market-place common sense. Debts that go bad are a disaster for individual consumers. They are also unwelcome to those offering credit. Providing the information to avoid them is a sound investment in the future.

Yours sincerely,
MAURICE HEALY,
Deputy Director,
National Consumer Council,
18 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,
March 19.

SKIRTING THE ISSUE

From Mrs Sarah Thurstfield
Sir, As a dressmaker, much of my business is initiated by telephone, and I have observed that where a woman of mature years will start by saying, "Hello dear, could you let out a skirt for me?", her daughter takes a deep breath and says: "With reference to your advert in the Sutton Coldfield Observer, I am calling to enquire about the possibility of having some bridesmaids' dresses made."

FINDING A FAKE

From Mr Brian R. Battersby
Sir, It was not only Victorian restorers who altered paintings in order to conceal embarrassing detail (Mr Dachinger's letter, March 11). Joseph Farington records the artist Westall's addition of "thin drapery" to part of a figure of Apollo, before its inclusion in the Royal Academy's summer exhibition of 1805. The artist cleverly used water-colour for the added drapery, proposing to wash it off after the exhibition.

Westall feared that objections to the unadorned figure might be raised, particularly as the Royal Family was expected to visit the exhibition. Royal sensitivities are not so well considered today, as we saw during the recent Antipodean tour.

Yours truly,
BRIAN R. BATTERSBY,
Longdale House,
Wincle,
Macclesfield,
Cheshire,
March 15.

KEEPING OUT THE COLD

From Dr Rosie Llewellyn-Jones
Sir, Mr Arnold Freedman's delightful description in today's Times (March 17) on keeping warm in Iran leads him to speculate that the word *kurti* must be the origin of our English word "cozy". A nice idea but in fact *kurti* is simply the Farsi word for chair and presumably by extrapolation the name of the rug-covered heated table.

Sincerely,
ROSIE LLEWELLYN-JONES,
135 Burntwood Lane, SW17,
March 17.

Coach chaos

From Mr Michael Sissons
Sir, The first cuckoo is of less significance to Londoners as an omen of spring these days than the first influx of tourist coaches. I claim the first sighting this Monday morning, when by 9.30 Margaret Street, in front of the Palace of Westminster, was lined with coaches, half of them European, from Lambeth Bridge to Parliament Square, with a traffic warden looking on bemused.

When the Minister of

BENZODIAZEPINES

From Mr D.R. Blagden
Sir, I was astonished to read of Professor Ian Oswald's suggestion that benzodiazepine tranquillisers should be made available over the counter without a doctor's prescription (report, March 17).

Numerous studies, in the UK and elsewhere, have shown conclusively that the benzodiazepines, far from being "safe", as Professor Oswald claims, are a highly addictive range of drugs which should only be prescribed with the utmost caution.

The comparison with alcohol and cigarettes is pernicious and misleading. The risks associated with use of these recreational drugs are universally known. In contrast, many patients who are prescribed "minor" tranquillisers by their doctors are never warned at the time that these drugs are addictive and indeed many only realise that they have become drug-dependent when they try to reduce or discontinue the dosage they are taking.

Moreover, unlike alcoholism and nicotine addiction, which are usually associated with abnormally high levels of intake, pharmacological dependency on

benzodiazepines can occur even at normal therapeutic dosages and following short courses of treatment.

Fortunately, a minority of enlightened GPs is now much more cautious about prescribing benzodiazepines unless there are strong clinical grounds for doing so. The suggestion that these drugs be made available without prescription is highly irresponsible.

Yours faithfully,
DEAN RAYMOND BLAGDEN,
2 Denning Road,
Hampstead, NW3,
March 18.

area. The intention is that pupils should learn what language is and how it functions in order to be able to convey meaning effectively.

A network of schools around the country which are taking initiatives of this kind has been established and the working party is at present producing a programme for the training of teachers to teach effectively in this area and is producing an evaluation programme for use by schools.

Yours faithfully,
GILLIAN DONMALL,
King's College London (KQC),
University of London,
Chelsea Campus,
552 King's Road, SW10.

From Professor N. Kurti, FRSE
Sir, About 30 years ago the sub-faculty of engineering of the University of Oxford recommended that the finals examiners, in assessing the essay paper, should take into account grammar, style and presentation. This proposal was turned down by the Faculty Board of Physical Sciences as being unfair to the candidates!

Yours faithfully,
N. KURTI,
University of Oxford,
Department of Engineering Science,
Parks Road,
Oxford,
March 18.

Coach chaos

From Mr Michael Sissons
Sir, The first cuckoo is of less significance to Londoners as an omen of spring these days than the first influx of tourist coaches. I claim the first sighting this Monday morning, when by 9.30 Margaret Street, in front of the Palace of Westminster, was lined with coaches, half of them European, from Lambeth Bridge to Parliament Square, with a traffic warden looking on bemused.

When the Minister of

LOST FOR WORDS

From Ms B. Gillian Donmall
Sir, One sympathises with the concern expressed by Professor E. H. Brown and others (February 25) concerning school leavers' inadequacy in precise use of the English language. They should know of the existence of the National Congress on Languages in Education, a body consisting of 37 language associations embracing all language areas and all sectors of education.

Four years ago I set up a working party to work with teachers in schools in precisely this

MEANINGFUL TERMS

From Mr K. H. Johnson
Sir, In one of your American contemporaries earlier this week, I noticed that what in that country used to be called a "girldie" was advertised as a "de-emphasiser". Yours faithfully,
K. W. JOHNSON,
Tanat,
97 Wolsey Road,
Moor Park,
Northwood,
Middlesex,
March 21.

WEIGHTY ADVICE

From Mrs B. O. Cooper
Sir, Apropos your letter from Mr John Banfield (March 8), I have a very few eggs, not only in Imps' basket but also in Distillers' basket.

Consequently hardly a day passes without an enormous white envelope pushed through my letter box and thudding on to the doormat, containing an obviously

extremely expensive-to-produce book of incomprehensible (to me) figures from one firm, contradicting what another firm has said to me the day before.

I could wish that, instead of this squandering of so much money on me, a little extra sum could be added to my small dividends.

Yours faithfully,
B. O. COOPER,
67 Portfield Street, Hereford.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 25: The Queen held an investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were entertained at dinner this evening by His Excellency the High Commissioner for New Zealand and Mrs Harland at 43 Chelsea Square, London SW3.

Latest wills
Viscount Darnley, of Chelsea, former High Sheriff of Rutland, left estate valued at £157,593 net.

Luncheons
Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor
Sir Colin Cole, Knight Principal of the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor and Garter King of Arms, presided at a council meeting of the society held at the Royal Thames Yacht Club yesterday.

Dinner
Institution of Lighting Engineers
Mr K. Shaw, President of the Institution of Lighting Engineers, presided at the inaugural dinner held last night at the Institute of Directors.

Supper
Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were hosts last night at a supper held at City Hall for lay vicars and representative clergy of the City of Westminster.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 25: The Duke of Gloucester this morning opened the Office Environment Exhibition '86 at Olympia, London.

Dr Monica E. Baly who has been appointed centenary fellow of the Queen's Nursing Institute. The author of a number of books on nursing, she served with the Princess Mary Royal Air Force Nursing Service during the Second World War and was western area officer for the Royal College of Nursing from 1951 until her retirement.

Mr Raymond Sears, QC has been appointed a judge of the High Court in Hong Kong.

Appointments
Mr Justice Tucker to be a Presiding Judge on the Midland and Oxford Circuit, in place of the late Mr Justice Skinner.

Eton College
Leot Half at Eton College ended yesterday. The Newcastle scholarship has been awarded to P.S. Drinkall, OS, the Newcastle medallist is J.W. Rees-Mogg and the W.C. divinity prize has been awarded to P.M. Wilson, OS, who is also the Rosebery exhibitor.

Lincoln's Inn
Mr T.L.G. Cullen, QC has been elected a Bench of Lincoln's Inn.

Memorial service

Sir Ronald Wates
A memorial service for Sir Ronald Wates was held yesterday at St Lawrence Jewry, next-Guildhall. The Rev Basil Wates, son of Mr Michael Wates, son of Canon William Purcell led the prayers.

Church news
Appointments
The Rev Canon G. St. John, Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, has been appointed Canon of St. Dunstons, London.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.L. Coote and Miss B.M. English
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, third son of Mr and Mrs L.G. Coote, of Goring on Thames, Oxfordshire, and Bettina, daughter of Mr R.N. English, of Bowing Green House, Goring, Oxfordshire.

Church news

Resignations and retirements
The Rev R. A. Williams, Vicar of St. Paul's, London, has resigned his office.

Birthdays today

Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, 81; Mr Pierre Boulez, 61; Sir Andrew Burt, 70; Mr K.Y. Chung, 38; Mr W.J. Edrich, 70; Lord Fletcher, 83; Lord Graham of Edmonton, 61; Judge Graham Hall, 69; Lord Hooson, QC, 61; Air Marshal Sir Peter Horsley, 63; Miss Elizabeth Jane Horsley, 63; Sir Bernard Katz, 75; Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch, 78; Dr Kenneth McLellan, 78; Sir Leslie Melville, 84; Mr Geoffrey Paul, 57; Mr David Quiller, 65; Mrs Doreen Quiller, 70; Sidney Ridley, 84; Miss Diana Ross, 42.

Institution of Civil Engineers

The following have been elected Honorary Fellows of the Institution of Civil Engineers: Lord Ezra, Lord McAlpine of Moffat, Lord Soames, C.H. and Sir Francis Tombs.

RAF sword

The Diamond Jubilee Sword of the Royal Air Force has been awarded for 1985 to RAF Brize Norton, Oxfordshire, for outstanding service to the Royal Air Force in 1985.

Births, Marriages, Deaths and In Memoriam

BIRTHS
MARR - On March 19th, at St Mary's Hospital Paddington, to Alison (née Williams) and Andrew, a daughter Katherine Mary Alice.

Marriages

Mr R.N.C. Hall and Mrs J.A. Speir
The marriage took place quietly on March 15, 1986 at Hartley Market Dryden, Shropshire, between Mr Richard Hall and Mrs Jane Speir.

Deaths

MARR - On March 19th, at St Mary's Hospital Paddington, to Alison (née Williams) and Andrew, a daughter Katherine Mary Alice.

OBITUARY

PROF FRANCIS SCARFE

Poet, critic and university administrator

Professor Francis Scarfe, CBE, who died on March 14 at the age of 75 was Director of the British Institute in Paris from 1959 to 1978 and Professor of French in the University of London from 1965 to 1978.

HARRIETTE ARNOW

Harriette Arnow, the American novelist who has died at her farm in Washington County, Michigan, at the age of 77, wrote evocatively about the lives of the Kentucky hill folk among whom she grew up.

DR JOAN MOORE

Dr Joan Moore, OBE, who died on February 28, will be remembered as a dedicated scientist who devoted her life to a single minded interest in plant pathology.

GEN SIR OUVRY ROBERTS

Your otherwise admirable obituary of General Sir Ouvry Roberts passed over his command of the land forces in Operation Zipper, the invasion of Malaya and re-conquest of Singapore which was already mounted when the atomic bombs were dropped on Japan.

University news

Cambridge
Professor Colin Renfrew, fellow of St John's College, Cambridge, and Disney professor of archaeology at Cambridge, has been elected Master of Jesus College from October 10.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM

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SECRETARY

Mr. External Affairs

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SECRETARY

Mr. External Affairs

SECRETARY

Mr. External Affairs

LA CREME DE LA CREME

MARKETING OPPORTUNITY c.£9,000

Challenging PA opening in a Direct Marketing Organisation. Working for a dynamic MD who travels frequently to Europe and the States. The post requires a person who can be his right hand, work under pressure, a good organizer and strong on admin skills. 60 typing + some WP. Age early 20's.

01-499 9175

COSMETICS PA £8,500

Superb opportunity for bright young secretary to join International Marketing Division of this prestigious cosmetic house. Working at PA level to the Marketing Manager you will be liaising with Europe, getting involved with a variety of duties and aspects of marketing, plus giving secretarial assistance. Skills 90/50 excellent benefits including free products. Age early 20's.

FINESSE

APPOINTMENTS LTD

PERSONNEL/PR £11,000

Unique opportunity for confident PA in an International Oil Co. This interesting post is working for the Public Affairs Manager and the Personnel Executive. A busy job, you will be assisting with internal training courses and a variety of PR activities, good communicator. Ideal age mid 20's. Skills 90/50.

SPECIALISTS FOR THE 18-25 YEAR OLDS.

New Business Creation Executive Secretary

This is an unusual, interesting and challenging opportunity for an ambitious and able person with good secretarial skills. It's with MCL Ventures, part of a successful £100m+ company that imports and distributes Mazda and FSO vehicles and is committed to doubling its size in the next few years. This will be achieved by acquiring new businesses in initially related fields, and in most cases will involve introducing exciting new concepts into the UK.

Our main Board Director who is responsible for this New Venture programme is seeking a highly competent Executive Secretary to manage his affairs decisively. He or she will have to operate the existing information collection and reporting systems so that venture companies can be monitored effectively, as well as implementing a PR programme.

MCL VENTURES

MCL GROUP

SECRETARY for External Affairs Manager Victoria c.£8,500

A Secretary is required in the Public Affairs Department at B.A.T. Industries, one of the world's largest industrial enterprises with interests in 90 countries.

The successful candidate will be intelligent and able to work on their own initiative. Excellent typing skills are required with some shorthand as well as a lively interest in international affairs. There will be scope for development for someone interested in undertaking research and maintaining a small information service.

The benefits package includes free lunch, non-contributory pension scheme, and flexible hours.

For an application form please telephone Beryl Pyle 01-222 7979 ext 2070. B.A.T. Industries plc., Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0NL.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT PLUS

The Irish Export Board is the Irish Government Organisation responsible for assisting Irish companies to promote and develop the export of their products and services.

P.A./SECRETARY to the Head of Market Research.

We are seeking someone to take day-to-day responsibility for our busy trade information/market research unit. As well as running the library and computer based information systems, the job involves handling market and trade information enquiries and providing secretarial support to the Head of the Department.

The successful candidate will have some experience of and a keen interest in running an information unit, good organisational / secretarial skills and P.C. / W.P. experience (preferably Wang). We would welcome applications from graduates for this position.

Salary will be commensurate with experience c.£9,000+ neg. Lunchtime Vouchers. 20 days annual leave.

Apply in writing please with comprehensive C.V. to:

Mr Mark Gray
Head of Administration
Irish Export Board,
Inland House,
150/151 New Bond Street,
London W1Y 0FD.

BAT INDUSTRIES

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

The Chairman of Macmillan Education and The Macmillan Press, Adrian Soar, needs an Administrative Secretary.

The job involves shorthand and audio typing, fixing complex meetings, taking minutes at directors' meetings and ensuring they make sense, keeping a diary, arranging itineraries, and dealing with correspondence when Mr Soar is abroad (about 2 1/2 months per year), including consulting the right people when in Spain, filing, making sure Mr Soar has the right papers for meetings and generally creating order out of chaos.

The successful applicant will have organising ability, tact, discretion, intelligence and charm, as well as good shorthand.

Please apply in writing with full CV to: Sheilaugh Browne, Personnel Manager, Macmillan Publishers Ltd., 4 Little Essex Street, London WC2R 3LF.



SECRETARY PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT c.£8,000

We are searching for a hardworking secretary to join our Production Department, where the task is to release new albums, singles, cassettes, videos and compact discs means constantly ringing phones and a hectic atmosphere.

You'll be fully involved in the work of the department, because as well as the usual secretarial duties, you'll be responsible for updating the weekly release schedule, typing progress reports, checking and distributing labels, information, and issuing catalogues and job numbers.

A good educational background, speeds of 100/60 wpm and the ability to work efficiently under pressure are all essential if you're to keep up with the pace. Word processing experience would also be very useful. Demonstrate just how fast your reactions are, by writing us now with full details of your background.

Jane Sullivan, Personnel Department
EHR RECORDS, (UK)
20 Manchester Square, LONDON W1A 1ES

PUBLISHING POSTS

If you have A Levels or a degree of sorts, 19-25 yrs, looking to earn c. £9,000 (inc. comm.), be trained and want to carve out a career in media sales in top London publishing houses, then call us now.

Clara or Rachelle
01-499 9634
CARRUTHERS LITHANE ASSOCIATES (UK) LTD

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Various opportunities in design, publishing, advertising, and Public Relations for secretaries to get truly involved in the business. College leavers and second jobbers, apply now!

01-738 5148
JAYAR (Rec. Cons.)

Market Research £10,500

Generalist clerical officers are your surroundings as team secretary in three consumer market consultants in this prestigious, young and fast growing company. More stable than the design houses, in the warmth and continuity of the company. This is a superb opportunity for a very bright, hard working secretary who has had some W.P. experience. Shorthand not essential. Age: 21-27. Skills: 60/30

Reception/Office Administrator Up to £8,500

Variety is one of the main features of this job. Your duties will cover office admin, some secretarial work and reception. As you develop, the job will develop with you. Probably in your 20's you are bright, enthusiastic and have all your typing. Flexibility is essential.

HAZELL STATION

8 Golden Square, London W1
Tel: 01-439 6021

OCEAN CRUISE LINES OPERATIONS ASST./SECRETARY

c.£8500 with benefits + travel opportunities. Extremely busy European headquarters of luxury cruise line requires experienced Secretary to assist small Management team. Good shorthand/typing and thorough knowledge of airline reservations and travel planning required. Pleasant working conditions in modern offices close to Marble Arch. Contact Jackie Parfitt on 725-5557 or send C.V. to Ocean Cruise Lines (UK), 10 Frederick Close, Stanhope Place, W9 2HD. No Agencies.

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Earn your golden Easter Egg with our top rates working for exciting clients throughout London. In return you should be lively, enthusiastic and well presented with skills of 80/100 sh or audio, 50+ typ. and aged 19-25. Ring us and start saving now!

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TELEPHONE IAN SCOTT
01-680 9622

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The successful candidate will vary, but will not rise beyond 50% and needs of 100/60 will be required. The ideal candidate for this post will be aged 30-40, educated to a level standard, preferably with a background in an advertising or management consultancy environment. The salary is negotiable, but will be in the region of £12,000. Please telephone 437 1564.

MacBlain

Recruitment Consultants
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London W1R 5FE

YOUNG SECRETARIES MARKETING TO £9,500

A bright young secretary with probably 2 years' solid experience is needed to join this young consultancy based in beautiful offices in St Katherine's Dock. In addition to normal secretarial duties the successful candidate will also be able to help organise some of their own accounts. Speeds 100/60 + WP.

PARTY ORGANISERS W8

A young secretary is needed to join this small firm of party consultants. The ideal candidate will be well spoken and able to deal with VIP clients. Driving licence useful. Typing 60 plus. Salary to £8,000.

COBOLD AND DAVIS RECRUITMENT LTD.
35 Bruton Place W1. 01-483 7789

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM PERSONAL SECRETARY

A personal secretary is required for the Museum Secretary who is Secretary to the Board of Trustees, works with the Director and Deputy Director to help establish policy, plans and controls for the Museum and heads the Department of Administrative Services in the Museum with responsibility providing financial, personnel and accommodation services.

This post calls for a person with secretarial skills and preferably previous experience as a Personal Secretary. The successful candidate, who will be an energetic person with a pleasant and tactful personality, will be expected to work on her or his own and to take responsibility. An ability to handle material of a confidential nature is essential and previous experience of word processing or a willingness to learn is desirable.

Minimum qualifications: 3 GCE 'O' level passes including English Language, Shorthand 100 wpm or audio skills, Typing 30 wpm.

Possibility of a starting salary above the minimum of the scale of £6847 pa rising by 6 annual increments to £1172 pa. Additional shorthand/ audio and typing proficiency payments can be earned: 5 day, 41 hour week (including lunch hours), 4 weeks 2 days paid holiday plus 10% Public and privilege holidays.

Apply in writing with curriculum vitae to:

Mrs J Farnworth
British Museum (Natural History)
Cromwell Road
London SW7 5BD
Tel: 01-589 6323 ext 441

The BM (NH) is an equal opportunity employer.

British Standards Institution

PERSONAL ASSISTANT Director General's Office

BSI is a national body with over 1,000 staff. Our activities range from the preparation of national Standards for all sectors of industry, to the famous 'Kitemark' and other quality assurance schemes, and a wide range of testing and information service.

We have a vacancy for a second PA at our Director General's office at our Mayfair headquarters. The jobholder will work with one other to ensure the smooth running of the Director General's office. Top level contacts with industry and Government departments and with international and overseas organizations means that discretion and a first class PR approach is essential and there are excellent opportunities to use administrative and organizational abilities as well as secretarial skills.

Education to 'B' Level of BTEC National is desirable; first rate secretarial skills (80 wpm typog. 110-120 wpm shorthand) and previous senior secretarial experience are both essential.

Salary will be in a range up to £9,500 pa depending upon qualifications and experience and the package includes 5 weeks annual leave, pension and season ticket loans.

For more information and an application form, please contact: MISS E. MACARTHUR Senior Personnel Officer, British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, LONDON W1A 2BS Telephone: 01-629 9000 E x 3144

DRAKE PERSONNEL

FRENCH RETAIL AND MARKETING £9,000

Do you like the idea of supporting a dynamic Chairman who is also becoming involved in all his business interests. The side of the operation is marketing and the other side is retailing, which will require concentration in France. Expenses on your own will be paid since you will be travelling between offices daily. Good typing and shorthand are a must. Call PATTY ROSS on 01-221 0572.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

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More and more marketing when you need your secretarial skills. The newly created department will present you with many challenges during the day. You will be responsible for preparing reports, handling correspondence and ensuring that the office runs smoothly. You will be working with a very professional and experienced team. If you are a top secretarial talent, you will find the environment exhilarating. An excellent package and skills of 100/60 needed. Call Doreen Dingham on 028 1646

DRAKE PERSONNEL

INVOLEMEN LAW at £5,500

Organize press functions when you join this international property and estate agency. You will be working in the heart of the West End where you will be PA to their PA Director. You will constantly liaise with press and media and be trained fully in a role.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

EXCLUSIVE LAW at £10,000

If you are a top legal PA with sound experience in the field of company conveyancing or litigation, together with good audio skills, an excellent opportunity exists in a very prestigious firm of lawyers in the heart of the West End. You will be closely assisting a Senior Partner in his confidential dealings with the exclusive clubs on a daily basis and you will need tact and diplomacy when handling legal. Call GONNA on 794-0911.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

PA/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR £10,000

For a top computer company we are seeking for a secretarial PA who can take on a supervisory role with an emphasis on top class, and handle not only the boss's personal correspondence, but a lot of your own too. He is a charmer, a good listener and will ensure you are fully satisfied. Only want your secret skills once or twice a week!

To find out more call MAE DREWETT on 01-831 9668

Immediate top calibre temporary assignments, PLUS...

- Top rates of pay.
 - The exclusive MacBlain Nash Privilege Card with its many benefits and discounts.
 - The opportunity to earn two weeks holiday pay.
- Ring Victoria Martin today on 01 439 0601 to join our senior level temporary team.
- 3rd Floor, Carrington House, 130 Regent Street, London W1R 5FE. (Entrance in Regent Place, opp Midland Bank).

MacBlain Nash Temporary Secretaries

ST. THOMAS'S LITHOTRIPTER CENTRE PATIENTS LIAISON OFFICER

An outgoing, flexible personality with a flair for admin and accounts

Up to £9,000 pa • BUPA • Season Ticket Loan

Could you be the personality behind a new and exciting venture in the heart of London? A centre created especially to provide a new form of treatment. Let's tell you about it...

A lithotripter is an extremely advanced and costly piece of equipment which treats kidney stones without the need for surgery. Thanks to the combined efforts of BUPA, the NHS and the DHSS, the first lithotripter in an NHS hospital is now treating patients at St Thomas' Hospital.

To ensure the success of this unique collaborative project, BUPA Hospitals are looking for a committed, outgoing and above all flexible personality to undertake the private patients liaison role.

Your responsibilities will include reception work, patient administration, patient accounts and public relations. To qualify, you should have some administrative and typing experience, but more importantly the ability to get on with people.

In return for a 36 hour week, we offer an annual salary of up to £9,000 with excellent benefits including free BUPA and season ticket loan.

If you would like to discuss this post in further detail, please contact Karen Carter, Assistant Operations Manager, oo 01-831 2668 ext. 242. For an application form and job description, please telephone Shirley Smeaton on 01-831 2668, or write to her at BUPA Hospitals, Dolphin Court, Great Turnstile, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC1V 7JU.

BUPA Hospitals

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This post is now being offered on an unrestricted basis through the ring fence procedure, with the agreement of the London and Metropolitan Government Staff Commission. Applications will be welcomed from employees of the GLC and Metropolitan County Councils.

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Form from Head of Personnel Services, Municipal Offices, Twickenham TW1 3AA, (01-891 7112), returnable by 11th April, 1986.

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ADVERTISING CONTINUED ON PAGE 25.

Europe fearful as Arabs back Gaddafi

By our Foreign Staff
Mixed reactions were reported around the world yesterday to the clashes between US forces and those of Libya in the Gulf of Sirte.

The strongest reaction came from Italy, where the Prime Minister, Signor Bettino Craxi, criticized the US manoeuvres, saying they carried high risk and caused concern to Italy.

He told an emergency session of Parliament it was unacceptable that a dispute over the Gulf of Sirte should be dealt with militarily, or that Libya should resort to arms to assert its claims.

He added: "Italy wants strongly to restore a state of normality in the region. Italy does not want wars on its doorstep."

In Greece a government statement said its firm position was that "provocations and conflicts are a danger to peace particularly in the eastern Mediterranean zone".

Spain appealed to both the US and Libya to avoid any further steps which could "endanger the stability of the Mediterranean zone".

West Germany backed the right of the United States to hold naval manoeuvres off the Libyan coast but said it hoped that clashes between Libyan and American forces would not escalate.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Bonn shared the view of the overwhelming majority of states, including the Soviet Union, that Libya's unilateral extension of its territorial waters to the Gulf of Sirte was not in accordance with international law.

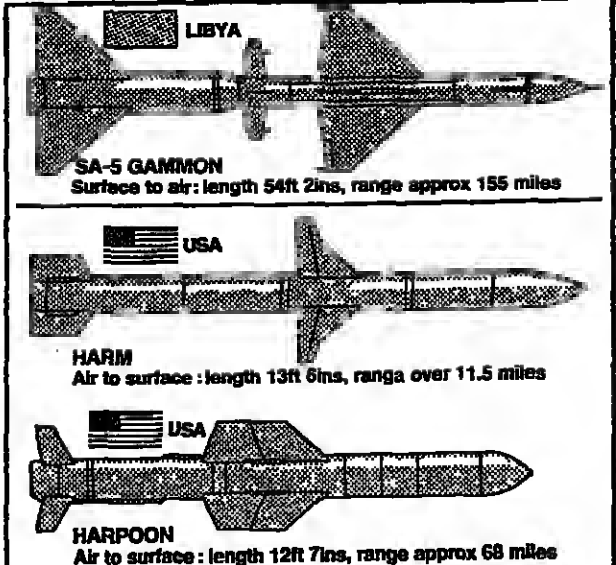
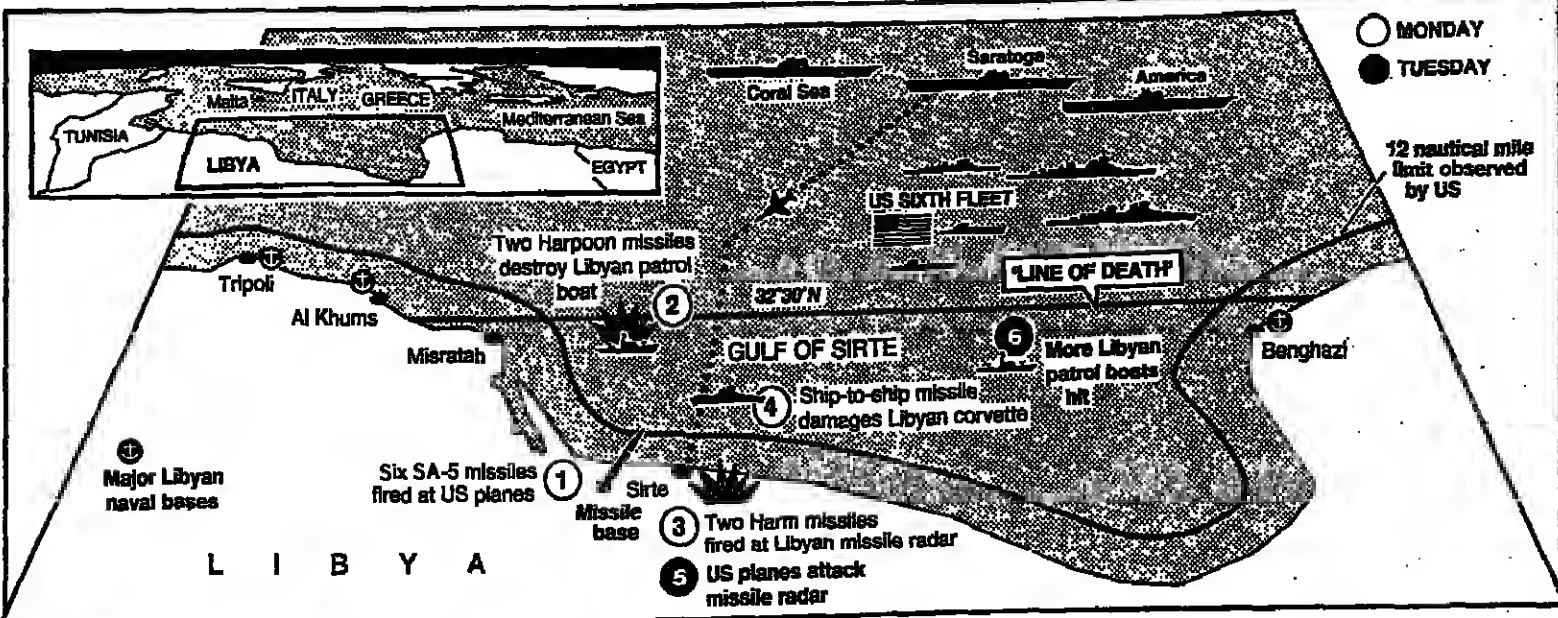
"The military action is taking place on the high seas and not on Libyan territory," the spokesman said.

Middle East

Israel described US action against Libya as legitimate self-defence and said it was encouraged by the American resolve against Colonel Gaddafi.

The Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres said: "It is the right of the United States like any other country to protect the freedom of navigation in international waters."

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said: "We are encouraged



The missiles involved in the conflict

by the firm stand of the United States towards the behaviour of Muammar Gaddafi who continues to promote and be involved in international terrorist activity."

The reaction of Libya's neighbours was highlighted by a call broadcast by Radio Tripoli on Arab revolutionaries "to invade and destroy all American embassies, institutions and bases in the Arab world".

In Cairo, President Mubarak of Egypt, no friend of Colonel Gaddafi, said he did not have enough details to comment.

But Sudan said it was prepared to put all its potential at the disposal of the Libyan in the face of US aggression.

Colonel Gaddafi had a telephone talk with President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria on Monday night and sent his Foreign Minister to Morocco following the first clashes.

Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi of Iran said Iran fully supported Libya.

And predictably, Cuba accused the US of deliberately provoking the confrontation and condemned the "insolent demonstration of force and perfidious attack on Libya".

Kremlin sees world security threatened by conflict

Continued from page 1

In an official statement, Mr Lomozko said: "The USSR heard with indignation about the provocative, reactionary action against the sovereign state of Libya... These are deliberate actions taken in order to destabilize the situation in the region and to destabilize the entire system of international security."

He linked the US action against Libya with last Saturday's underground nuclear test in Nevada, saying that both, along with other recent US actions, were "a provocation against the spirit of Geneva".

The tone of his news conference led many diplomats here to predict that chances were now even slimmer for finding a date for the 1986 summit.

Referring to American attacks on Libyan missile sites and naval vessels, Mr Lomozko said: "These moves are aimed not only against the people of the Middle East, but against international security as a whole, since the situation in the Middle East and around Libya specifically is so tense now as to make the area highly explosive."

"It is like a smouldering fire. A few incendiary devices would be enough to make the conflict flare up, involving not

only adjacent countries but other countries as well." Despite US claims that Soviet vessels are in the conflict area, Mr Lomozko said: "We are not conducting any monitoring activity in that area. We are not taking part in that conflict in any way at all."

Although the anti-imperialist rhetoric was fierce yesterday in the question-and-answer session that followed the Kremlin statement, Western observers noted that Mr Lomozko appeared to draw back on a number of occasions from making any specific commitments which could have drawn Soviet forces into the fighting.

American correspondents at the crowded press conference

appeared surprised that Mr Lomozko did not use the occasion to deliver more specific threats against the US or more concrete backing for the Libyan leader.

One Washington journalist asked whether the Kremlin intended to take any more specific steps on behalf of Colonel Gaddafi beyond calling press conferences.

Diplomatic observers said the Kremlin's stance was a reminder that the relationship between Moscow and Tripoli was not without its difficulties. These are understood to have surfaced during Colonel Gaddafi's visit here last October and to include both the Gulf War and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The USS Saratoga, operating in the disputed area

Letter from Oslo Whooping it up on Long Friday

Sorry, Norway is closed. Banks, post offices, cinemas and food stores are shuttered. If the city streets deserted. If you insist, you can probably find a doctor, and even, somewhat incredibly, an occasional tram. Otherwise, the only game in town is the "SOS Line", whose telephone volunteers will try to talk you out of killing yourself. Or, of course, you could go to church.

The Norwegians look forward to their Easter holiday, which they claim is the longest in the world, with a mixture of excitement and dread. (It is no linguistic accident that their expression for Good Friday is "Long Friday").

Officially, the holiday begins today and ends next Wednesday; in practice, everybody who can get away with it drifts off during the previous weekend.

This is the second most sparsely-populated country, after Iceland, in Europe. Even on a normal day, even at the height of the rush-hour, even the capital city feels, to a Londoner, like a backdrop for *The Screams*, Munch's Expressionist masterpiece evoking a sense of loneliness and despair that is all many people know about Norway.

During Easter week, the cities present vistas of emptiness that might well have inspired Munch even at his least morose to hang up his easel and take to his bed.

The cold hand of Lenten asceticism can be blamed for much that may seem odd to us about Scandinavia, but not, any longer, for this. In fact, Easter has developed, with post-war prosperity, from a dour religious observance to a holiday exodus, a national rite of spring.

It is estimated that 700,000 people, out of a population of four million, will be on the move during the ten days of Easter.

Most of them will scatter into the mountain fastnesses, to ski and to cultivate their first sunbaths on the snow of the dazzling snowfield, weather permitting.

Some will get into trouble in the wilderness, and rescue teams "on every other peak", according to one newspaper, stand poised to help them.

Some will die: lost and frozen to death, in falls and avalanches, or in road accidents. Some who survive will do so because they heeded the preliminary torrents of advice and made sure to approach even the most innocuous outing in command style - warm and waterproof clothing, of course; pockets filled with biscuits, chocolate, raisins, oats, nuts, dried fruit and salt; and empty plastic bottles to fill with snow and hold against the body for melting.

Perhaps the most curious aspect of Easter here is that so many people who have spent six months or more longing for an end to the snow and ice should now take flight from springtime in the cities in pursuit of the last knockings of winter.

The newspapers also close down for about a week, reappearing this year on April Fool's Day, which has a long and robust tradition here.

The classic joke, still a chortling matter some decades later, was perpetrated just after the war and was predicated, inevitably, on the unquenchable Scandinavian thirst for strong drink.

A series of official-looking announcements appeared, noting that the *Vinnmonopol*, the government chain of off-licenses that controls all alcohol sales except beer, was giving the stuff away because of a post-war shortage of glass for bottling. Helpful citizens were invited to bring their own containers. They queued in their tens of thousands - with milk churns.

It is just possible that this year's best April Fool has already come and gone. Norway, which took first place in the 1985 Eurovision Song Contest, has just chosen its entry for the 1986 competition, to be held in Bergen.

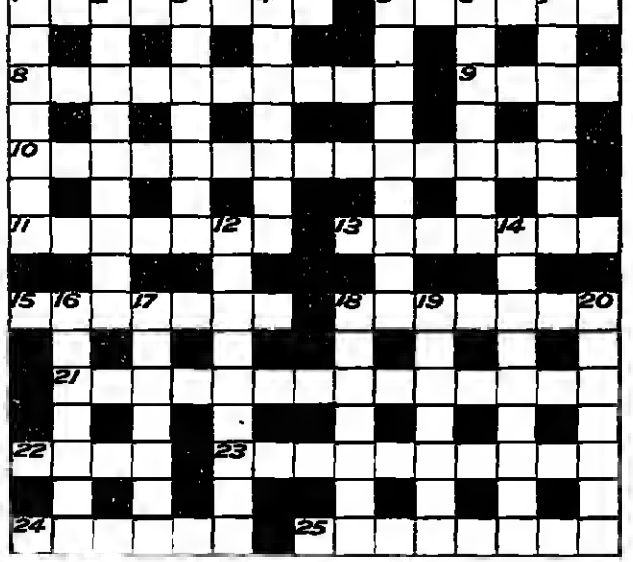
The winning group, known inscrutably as The Garlic Girls, is a drag act.

Tony Samstag

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, opens the new Civic Centre, Westgate, Bromley, 3.
The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the British Amateur Athletic Board, presents the BAAB Trophies and World Record plaques for 1985, Buckingham Palace, 10; and later, as President, the Institute Sports Sponsorship, chairs in situate meetings, Fishmongers' Hall, EC4, 10.45.
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother arrives Smithfield Market, EC1, 12; and lunches with the Butchers' Company, Butchers' Hall, EC1, 12.45.
The Prince of Wales visits Lea View House, ES, 11.30; and later, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, attends a performance of Messiaen's *Three Tableaux* from *St Francis of Assisi*, Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1, 7.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,003



- ACROSS
1 Origin and end of Aethusa (8).
5 Rural areas lacking right to a territorial division (6).
8 Cloth worker once had car damaged (10).
9 Hector's mother an ambassador to this island? (4).
10 Hollow grief when a carnivore causes lacerations (9,3).
11 Extremely dodgy and disagreeable line of succession (7).
13 Letting oneself go on following a group (7).
15 Wine produced by some republicans (7).
18 Lay going on for ages (7).
21 Iris Cassio, for instance, the Admiral's helper (4,10).
22 Aileron causing panic (4).
23 The mean of doves in - elms' (Tennyson) (10).
24 Ne'er-do-well gave instruction to Governor-General (3,3).
25 Composer runs inside for a device to catch leaves (8).
- DOWN
1 Feeble young creature reared by detectives (7).
2 This head assumed to be an easy liar, do we hear? (9).
3 Irksome to be ordered outside (7).
4 Senselessness of batting on in any circumstances (7).



Solution to Puzzle No 17,002

Books - hardback

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The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.12	2.08
Canada \$	2.12	2.08
Denmark Kr	75.40	68.80
France F	2.25	2.02
Germany M	1.71	1.67
Hong Kong \$	10.87	10.32
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USA \$	1.52	1.45
Yugoslavia Dnr	330.00	480.00

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Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will move E across the United Kingdom followed by troughs of low pressure.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, E England, East Angles: Mainly dry, sunny intervals at first becoming cloudy; occasional rain later with NW moderate, becoming SW, fresh later; max temp 9C (48F).
SW, W England, Wales, Lake District: Becoming cloudy; mainly dry at first, outbreaks of rain later; wind SW moderate, becoming fresh or strong later; temp 12C (54F).
Ireland, Scotland, North Wales, Lake District: Becoming cloudy; mainly dry at first, outbreaks of rain later; wind SW moderate, becoming fresh or strong later; temp 12C (54F).
SE England, East Angles, East Midlands: Cloudy, showers at first, becoming mainly dry; wind NW moderate, becoming SW, fresh later; max temp 11C (52F).
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Wales, Lake District: Becoming cloudy; mainly dry at first, outbreaks of rain later; wind SW moderate, becoming fresh or strong later; temp 12C (54F).
Ireland, Scotland, North Wales, Lake District: Becoming cloudy; mainly dry at first, outbreaks of rain later; wind SW moderate, becoming fresh or strong later; temp 12C (54F).
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Wales, Lake District: Becoming cloudy; mainly dry at first, outbreaks of rain later; wind SW moderate, becoming fresh or strong later; temp 12C (54F).
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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1364.7 (-29.9) FT-SE 100 1633.8 (-30.1) USM (Datastream) 116.81 (-2.47) THE POUND US Dollar 1.4620 (-0.0280) W German mark 3.4167 (+0.0128) Trade-weighted 75.4 (-0.5)

Index falls 29 points

The stock market's steep rise went sharply into reverse yesterday, wiping billions of pounds off share values, as sterling weakened against the US dollar and worries over the oil price persisted. After rising strongly following the Budget, the FT-30 share index dropped 29.9 points to finish at 1,364.7. The pound sank overnight against the dollar, ending the day 2.2 cents down at \$1.4615. The sterling index, however, was down by only 0.5 at 75.4. The fall on the Stock Exchange wiped £5.25 billion off share values, easily the biggest one-day fall ever in value terms.

Booker rise

Booker McConnell yesterday reported pretax profits for the year to December 31 of £46.5 million, up 26 per cent on 1984. Turnover was up 8 per cent to £1,188 million and the dividend was raised from 9p to 12p. Tempus, page 19

Lasmo surge

Lasmo's group profit after tax rose 19 per cent in the year to December 31 to £37.7 million. Oil production increased by 28 per cent to 45,800 barrels per day. The dividend is maintained at 12.2p. Tempus, page 19

Good Friday

The Times will publish a full service of financial news and information on Good Friday, making it the first quality newspaper to carry Thursday's prices and financial news. The Friday paper will publish Stock Exchange and unit trust prices. These will be repeated in Saturday's edition, which will also carry a large Family Money section.

Jonas talks

Jonas Woodhead has received an approach which may or may not lead to an offer being made for the whole of the ordinary share capital of the company.

DRG search

DRG has confirmed that it is in the process of identifying a purchaser for its caribon business in Fishponds, Bristol. The company is also examining the possibility of a management/employee buyout.

Steel venture

The British Steel Corporation and Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds have agreed to form United Engineering Steels, a jointly-owned company which has acquired the manufacturing activities of BSC special steels business and GKN's special steels and forgings operations.

Crest issue

Crest Nicholson is raising about £16.9 million through a rights issue of 12.49 million new shares at 140p on a one-for-five basis to increase growth in the property division.

UB offer for Imps 'final' after OFT clears way

By Cliff Feltham

United Biscuits, the Crawford's and McVie's group, received permission to press on with its bid for Imperial Group yesterday and promptly announced that it would not be raising its £2.5 billion offer. The Office of Fair Trading waved the bid through after Imperial agreed to sell its Golden Wonder crisps business to Dalgety, a move aimed at escaping a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

United Biscuits chairman, Sir Hector Laing, then announced that his current offer - still some way below the rival bid from Hanson Trust - would not be raised and would close on April 11. "Shareholders of Imperial can now decide on the intrinsic merits of the two competing offers. We are confident that they will conclude that our offer, which has infinitely greater commercial benefits, is the better", he said.

Prudential profit up by 39%

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The Prudential Corporation, Britain's largest insurance group, yesterday revealed a 39 per cent boost in pretax profits for last year after a strong improvement in its reinsurance business. But although some areas of long term life business continued to grow, the Pru was still affected by losses on general insurance and overseas operations.

Aerospace request for launch aid

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

British Aerospace, which yesterday revealed 1985 profits of £130 million, is to seek full Government financial backing of about £500 million for its share in the work on the next European Airbus airliner.

Pergamon in £238m share deal

By Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent

Mr Robert Maxwell's privately-owned Pergamon Press is selling its highly profitable scientific publishing interests to British Printing and Communications Corporation in a £238.65 million share exchange deal that will significantly tidy up Mr Maxwell's business empire.

Standard Chartered beats currency loss

By Our Banking Correspondent

Standard Chartered, the international banking group with strong interests in the Far East, Africa and the United States, yesterday announced a 12 per cent increase in pretax profits despite £38 million loss through adverse exchange rate fluctuations. The results include British profits more than doubling during last year while profits in South East Asia more than halved.

CBI seeks young business brains to plan the future

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Fifteen of Britain's top business people aged under 35 are being sought by the Confederation of British Industry in an effort to formulate a 21st century blueprint for industrial and commercial action.

Income Tax Relief 1985/1986

Electrostore PLC

A BES investment in an established and profitable group of companies Offer for Subscription under the Business Expansion Scheme

Sponsored by Strauss, Turnbull & Co. Limited Member of The Stock Exchange

Of up to 1,400,000 Ordinary Shares of 50p each at 60p per share payable in full on application

The ELECTROSTORE Advantages

The BES Benefits

Up to 60% income tax relief No capital gains tax on first share sale Asset levels well within new Government limits

The founder company formed 13 years ago with the original directors fully involved and committed to the future expansion

Excellent spread of customers, products and suppliers

Strasurs, Turnbull & Co. Limited 3 Moorgate Place London EC2R 6HR Tel: 01-638 5699

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

Table with columns for Stock Market, New York, Dow Jones, Tokyo, Nikkei Dow, Hang Seng, Amst/Amst Gen, Sydney: AO, Frankfurt, Commerzbank, Brussels, Geneva, Paris: CAC, Zurich, SNA General.

GOLD

Table with columns for London: Fixing, AM \$252.00, Close \$347.00, New York, Sydney.

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Table with columns for RISES, A and G Sed, Woodhead, Tazer/Kensley, King Trust, Unibank, Pru, AC Cars.

FALLS

Table with columns for Blue Circle, BP, ICI, Lucas, British Aero, AB Electric, Amstrad, Really Useful, Eucalyptus Pulp, Aquaculture, Woolworth, Waterhouse Rink, GKN, Lloyds, Rosebough.

CURRENCIES

Table with columns for London, New York, E: \$1.4620, E: DM2.3370, E: Sfr2.8655, E: FF10.4762, E: Yen283.23, E: Index: 75.4, ECU, SDR.

INTEREST RATES

Table with columns for London, Bank Base, 3-month interbank, 3-month eligible bills, buying rate, US, Prime Rate, Federal Funds, 3-month Treasury Bills, 30-year bonds.



Sir Hector Laing: 'greater commercial benefits'

will see whether the institutions and our private shareholders are looking for short-term cash or are going to support a highly profitable long-term company which is going to grow its own business and not rely on larger and larger acquisitions. The United Biscuits move brought a sharp response from the Hanson camp. Mr Russell

Edey of the merchant bank Rothschild said: "I think their decision has increased our chance of winning. While I always thought there was a possibility of them raising their offer they obviously were worried about knocking the value of their existing shareholders and this must have weighed quite heavily with them."

"They are asking shareholders in Imperial to choose between two different types of management - but at a cost to themselves. It is one thing to say back us when prices are evenly matched, but quite a different matter when shareholders are being asked to accept a lower offer on the grounds that the board gets on better with the other camp."

The movement in the share prices of the two rivals yesterday left Hanson Trust's "best shot" offer worth 362p - 27p more than the 335p United Biscuits terms.



Sir Austin Pearce: further study on airliner

partners of the UK, France, West Germany and Spain, with a detailed assessment in May and Sir Austin said this would be followed by further study by BAE.

BAE's order book at the end of 1985 was £5,138m compared with £4,820m a year earlier.

This did not include orders arising from the £5 billion deal between Britain and Saudi Arabia for the supply of Tornados and other military equipment and which will have a significant impact on profits for 1986. A pre-tax figure of about £215m is being forecast.

The dividend was raised from 53.5p to 56.4p Tempus, page 19

Pergamon in £238m share deal

By Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent

Mr Robert Maxwell's privately-owned Pergamon Press is selling its highly profitable scientific publishing interests to British Printing and Communications Corporation in a £238.65 million share exchange deal that will significantly tidy up Mr Maxwell's business empire.

The deal will boost Pergamon's interest in BPCC from the present 56 per cent to just under 75 per cent and is subject to approval by minority shareholders in BPCC.

BPCC said the acquisition would result in an immediate increase in the profitability and market capitalization of the company providing a base for further expansion in the publishing and communications field.

Mirror Group Newspapers will remain with Pergamon though most of its printing has already been contracted to BPCC. Mr Maxwell has set a mid-1987 deadline for removal of newspaper production from the Holborn Circus plant in central London to an alternative site owned by BPCC.

The scientific journal acquisition would give BPCC the cash flow it needed to help meet the considerable planned investment in new printing facilities, the company said.

BPCC listed contract printing of national newspapers as one of three principle areas of growth.

The company said: "Separation of newspaper printing from publishing is offering breakthrough opportunities for both publishers and printers to use their particular skills fully to the benefit of their shareholders and staff."

BPCC said that yet-to-be announced profits for last year would not be less than £25 million, while Pergamon would make pretax profits of about £26.1 million in the year to the end of this month. In 1984, BPCC made profits of £22.25 million but this included property profits of £6.64 million.

The documentation of the deal casts no new light on the mystery surrounding the ultimate ownership of Pergamon which is hidden behind a Liechtenstein registered charitable trust.

Dealings in BPCC shares were suspended on the Stock Exchange yesterday at 2.30p ahead of the deal

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Balancing act ahead for the little men

In the Chinese year of the tiger the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has become a paper tiger. The only subject on which it managed to agree after nine days of discussion was to meet again on April 15. The immediate expectation is that oil prices will continue their drift downward to \$10 per barrel and below, now that the spring season of low demand is almost upon us.

This prospect brings into question the continued existence of the independent oil sector. The financial resources of the smaller exploration companies were always slender. When the oil price was rising the shareholders could always be relied upon to subscribe to rights issues. Acreage could be farmed out to help to pay for the cost of drilling. And there was always the possibility of a bid.

Now the bidders are themselves in financial straitjackets and, far from farming into the many juicy drilling prospects now around, are themselves looking for ways to cut back on drilling expenditure. In this, they are encouraged by their partners, the smaller independents. They are finding it increasingly difficult to pay their way, despite, perhaps even because of, the purchases of Forties and Claymore units.

Most of these units were bought when the oil price was \$30, largely with borrowed money, much of it limited recourse. The income from the production was liable to petroleum revenue tax and corporation tax, and would provide tax shelter for these companies' drilling programmes. Of every \$1 spent on

drilling, up to 80 cents would be supplied by the Government as tax relief. The fall in the oil price has made a nonsense of this strategy. The tax payable on the units will become negligible and the cash flow will be swallowed up in interest and loan repayments, with disastrous results for the companies' ability to pay for any kind of credible drilling programme.

Their North Sea oil production will continue more or less unchanged, but cash flow is dwindling. Out of ever-decreasing income these companies must support interest payments, overheads, including exploration teams recruited during the boom years, and tax on production depending on the level to which drilling is cut back. For many it will be a delicate balancing act between keeping up interest and loan repayments and not throwing money down the drain by doing too little drilling to use up the tax shelter.

If Opec fails to raise the oil price by re-instituting production controls - and there is every reason to believe that it will fail - then the oil price may not recover until after 1990. Under these circumstances, drilling is only for those who will still be around in the 1990s. Many of the small oil companies will not make it and it will be left to the majors to hoover up the debris.

This is unlikely to occur for some time, however, as the oil price has not yet settled down and even those with money to spend on unfashionable oil assets will wait until the sellers are desperate.

Industry endorses Lawson

The Confederation of British Industry has provided the Chancellor with encouraging support at the most vulnerable point of his Budget forecast.

Its own new view of the economy, published today, suggests growth of only 2½ per cent this year, compared with the Treasury's forecast of 3 per cent growth. And this is not enough to make more than a trivial dent in the level of unemployment. But like the Chancellor, the CBI now expects growth to be much better balanced, with exports and investment leading the way.

Export orders, says the CBI, have started to recover strongly after the winter setback. Its forecast for trade is much the same as the Chancellor's, with strong growth in exports just outpaced by the rise in imports, but with the current account of the balance of payments remaining in surplus this year and next. On investment, however, the CBI is even more optimistic than the Treasury, foreseeing an increase of about 6½ per cent in fixed capital formation this year and nearly as much of an increase again next year.

The public sector is responsible for none of this growth, a source of constant complaint by the CBI: its forecasts assume that the Government, including public corporations, actually cuts its investment by a full 5 per cent this year. Nor does manufacturing industry's improved prospects, after the fall in oil prices and the exchange rate, hold the key. But stronger investment is expected in

housebuilding, and the financial and distribution sectors.

However, lower oil prices are the main factor in producing a rosier outlook for the economy as a whole, according to CBI economists. This year, the main benefit of the fall in oil prices is felt in lower inflation: the CBI's forecast is close to the Chancellor's, with inflation averaging 3.7 per cent this year and falling to 3.4 per cent in 1987. Next year, lower oil prices are also expected to speed up growth: the CBI is expecting a 2.8 per cent rise in output in 1987, which is a whisker more than the Chancellor's first indications for next year.

This cheerful forecast, therefore, endorses the Chancellor's view that the weakness in the economy at the turn of the year was only a blip on the screen. The March monthly trends inquiry, published alongside the quarterly economic forecast, shows that while export order books are still, on average, below normal, they have improved considerably from the January position. In January, a balance of 19 per cent of companies had export orders below normal. This fell to 10 per cent last month and 7 per cent this month.

The CBI, however, continues to nag the Government on interest and exchange rates. It is still pressing the Chancellor to accept the need for greater exchange rate stability, as represented by full membership of the European Monetary System. On that subject, however - as the CBI well knows - there is no point addressing its remarks anywhere but to No 10, Downing Street.

WALL STREET

New York (AP-DJ) - The stock market turned in a mixed performance on Monday as blue chip issues rallied from Friday's technically-triggered selling.

The broader market fared less well, with falling issues outnumbering rising ones by nearly 10 to seven. Nonetheless, the NYSE composite index managed a gain of 0.74, to finish at 135.54.

Both the American Stock Exchange and NASDAQ composite indices ended lower. Volume on the NYSE shrank to 144.4 million shares from 199.22 million on Friday.

Table with columns for stock symbols (AMR, ASA, ASEA, etc.) and their corresponding prices and changes.

Table with columns for stock symbols (Econ Corp, Fed Stk, etc.) and their corresponding prices and changes.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table titled 'STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES' showing market rates for various currencies and time periods.

COMMODITIES

Table titled 'LONDON METAL EXCHANGE' showing prices for various metals like copper, zinc, and lead.

COMMODITIES

Table titled 'LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE' showing prices for various commodities like sugar, coffee, and cocoa.

COMMODITIES

Table titled 'LONDON MEAT EXCHANGE' showing prices for various types of meat.

COMMODITIES

Table titled 'LONDON POTATO FUTURES' showing prices for different potato varieties.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table titled 'EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %' showing interest rates for various currencies and terms.

GOLD

Table showing gold prices in different currencies and markets.

ECGD

Table showing ECGD (Export Credit Guarantee Department) rates.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing prices for various London financial futures contracts.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table showing other sterling rates for various currencies.

THE PRICES AND UNIT TRADING QUOTATIONS ON THIS PAGE REFER TO MONDAY'S TRADING

Table showing unit trading quotations for various financial instruments.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table showing prices and performance for various investment trusts.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table showing prices and performance for various financial trusts.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table showing prices and performance for various financial trusts.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Large table providing detailed information for various unit trusts, including names, managers, and performance metrics.

April 10 1986

TEMPUS

Unknown profits from Bae's Saudi order

Confirmation of the £5 billion Saudi order for Tornados and other aircraft, weapons and ground support has taken British Aerospace's shares by storm. In the past month they have jumped from 440p to over 600p, though yesterday they lost some of their height, falling by 25p to 583p.

Malaysia to start tin futures

Malaysia believes that commodity agreements are dead and intends to introduce a tin futures contract on the Kuala Lumpur Commodities Exchange, in addition to the existing natural rubber and palm oil contracts.

Share prices tumble on Middle East fears

Share prices were in full-scale retreat yesterday as investors rushed to take profits in the wake of heightening tension in the Middle East and Opec's failure to reach agreement on a production strategy.

Bankers hit at register

The English and Scottish clearing banks yesterday attacked the proposals being considered by the Department of Trade on the registration of life assurance and unit trust salesmen.

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns for EQUITIES, RECENT ISSUES, and RIGHTS ISSUES. Lists various stocks and their prices.

Our business is selling yours. CHESHAM. The best known name in merger broking.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS. Clerical Medical Life Assurance. Annual General Meeting. Extraordinary General Meeting.

Newspaper profits up by a third

Pretax profits rose by nearly a third as United Newspapers last year on turnover £117.8 million higher.

WHEN YOU WANT TO OPEN THE RIGHT DOORS IN CHINA, REMEMBER THAT OURS HAVEN'T CLOSED SINCE 1858. Standard Chartered advertisement with images of a globe and a building.

PRUDENTIAL CORPORATION

1985 Results

A year of progress and change

Total profit before tax in 1985 was £108.6m, compared with £78.0m in 1984. Long-term business profits continued to show significant underlying growth, but there was only a modest increase in the reported figure because it included a smaller non-recurrent element than in 1984. The main feature of the general insurance business results was a recovery at Mercantile and General Reinsurance, but this was partly offset by a deterioration in the Overseas Division. There was a small improvement in the United Kingdom.

The directors have declared an increased final dividend of 17p per share, making a total of 26p for the year, compared with 22.5p for 1984. The increase reflects the underlying growth in long-term profits, the encouraging overall improvement in general insurance results and the strength of the solvency margins supporting the Group's insurance business.

Financial Highlights

	1985	1984
	£m	£m
Profit and Loss Account Summary:		
Profit before tax from:		
Long-term business	137.7*	136.1*
General insurance	(53.4)	(79.9)
Shareholders' other income	24.3	21.8
Total profit before tax	108.6	78.0
Tax	(31.5)	(31.9)
Minority interests	(1.0)	(0.9)
Profit attributable to shareholders	76.1	45.2
Earnings per share	25.3p	15.1p
Dividend per share	26.0p	22.5p
Long-term Business:		
Premium income	1,719.1	1,837.5
Surplus for distribution	1,016.7	1,099.9
Policyholders' bonuses	928.3	1,011.3
Shareholders' profit before tax	137.7*	136.1*
General Insurance:		
Premiums written	795.8	788.5
Underwriting result	(131.6)	(161.4)
Investment income	78.2	81.5
Trading profit (loss) before tax	(53.4)	(79.9)
Shareholders' Other Income:		
Investment income	25.5	24.5
Miscellaneous net income	2.6	0.1
Expenses	(3.8)	(2.8)
Other income before tax	24.3	21.8

* There are special features in these items, which are explained and quantified in the text. The abridged income statement for 1985 is an extract from the latest accounts. These accounts have not yet been delivered to the Registrar of Companies, nor have the auditors reported on them.

Long Term Business

We have again made increases in the benefits payable on United Kingdom with-profits policies. As in 1984, some of the increases on assurance policies which would normally have taken the form of terminal bonuses have been declared as special reversionary bonuses, in order to give policyholders greater certainty as to the eventual

proceeds under their policies. Shareholders' profit before tax from long-term business showed a small increase at £137.7m, but excluding the largely non-recurrent amounts resulting from the special reversionary bonuses in the United Kingdom, the underlying profit rose by 11% from £112.4m to £124.4m.

General Insurance Business

The general insurance trading loss before tax of £53.4m represents an encouraging improvement. Total premiums

	Premiums written		Underwriting result		Investment income		Trading Profit (loss) before tax	
	1985	1984	1985	1984	1985	1984	1985	1984
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
UK Division	327.9	279.0	(47.8)	(54.8)	22.6	24.6	(25.2)	(30.2)
Overseas Division:								
Canada	88.6	100.9	(13.5)	(1.3)	6.7	9.3	(6.8)	8.0
EEC	56.4	51.2	(13.6)	(3.9)	9.1	7.5	(4.5)	3.6
Other Countries	17.0	19.5	(3.3)	(0.5)	1.3	1.6	(2.0)	1.1
London Market-Overseas	26.0	34.8	(3.0)	(5.8)	3.9	4.7	0.9	(1.1)
Marine and Aviation	30.5	26.2	(3.2)	(1.5)	2.6	2.6	(0.6)	1.1
Total Overseas	218.5	232.6	(36.6)	(13.0)	23.6	25.7	(13.0)	12.7
Mercantile & General	249.4	276.9	(47.2)	(93.6)	32.0	31.2	(15.2)	(62.4)
Total	795.8	788.5	(131.6)	(161.4)	78.2	81.5	(53.4)	(79.9)

In the United Kingdom the modest improvement to a trading loss before tax of £25.2m was attributable to a substantial improvement in commercial business offset by a worsening in personal lines. The domestic property result deteriorated compared with 1984, but the beneficial

effect of the corrective measures taken at the start of 1985 became evident in the second half of the year. In the motor account the frequency of claims continued to rise, contributing to a higher trading loss.

In the Overseas Division a sharp deterioration in underwriting results produced a trading loss before tax of £13.0m. In Canada our business suffered from the severe weather conditions early in 1985 and

there was a marked downturn in the motor account. Of the main regional groupings only our Belgian subsidiary and our operations in the London market produced a trading profit.

Mercantile and General's trading loss before tax was much lower at £15.2m. Much of the reduction was due to the corrective action we have taken in recent years, the

effectiveness of which is now being demonstrated by the emerging results of business written since 1983.

Capital Resources: The total capital resources of the Group at the end of 1985 amounted to £555m. The solvency margin of Prudential Assurance and its subsidiaries was

64%, and that of the Mercantile and General Reinsurance Group was 67%.

Copies of the Report and Accounts will be available on May 2nd

from the Registrar's Department,

PRUDENTIAL CORPORATION plc

142 HOLBORN BARS, LONDON EC1N 2NH

COMPANY NEWS

● **PHILIPS' LAMPS:** The European Investment Bank is lending the company the equivalent of 200 million guilders (£52.6 million) to finance a large-scale investment programme aimed at mastering sub-micron technology, which will be used for the production of the next generation of integrated circuits.

● **KLEARFOLD INC:** Pretax profit for 1985 \$1.36 million (£1.25 million), against \$1.32 million (£1.21 million). Turnover \$19.62 million (£17.91 million). Earnings per share 14.1 cents (8.3 cents).

● **LAMONT HOLDINGS:** Total dividend 4.5p (3.1p) for 1985. Turnover £46.58 million (£40.81 million). Pretax profit £4.61 million (£3.45 million). Earnings per share 19.02p (15.62p).

● **AQUASCUTUM GROUP:** The board is proposing to raise about £5.95 million, after expenses, by the issue of up to 10.13 million new "A" (restricted voting) ordinary shares

by a rights issue at 60p per share on the basis of one new "A" ordinary share for every three ordinary and/or "A" held. The issue is not being underwritten. Results for the year to January 31 (Figures in £000): Turnover 37,859 (33,647). Pretax profit 1,765 (1,220). Earnings per share 4.87p (3.08p). Total dividend 2.5p (2.25p).

● **SPRING RAM CORPORATION:** Total dividend for 1985 1.81p (1.65p). One-for-one scrip issue proposed. Turnover £27.39 million (£19.36 million). Pretax profit £4.43 million (£3.02 million). Earnings per share 16.2p (14.5p). The board reports that the current year has begun well.

● **EUCALYPTUS PULP MILLS:** Dividend for 1985 7p (10p and 5p special payment). Turnover £24.79 million (£23.37 million). Pretax profit £2.9 million (£7.23 million). Earnings per share 59p (136p).

● **BENSON'S CRISPS:** Year to Nov. 30, 1985. No dividend, but the directors intend to restart payments at the earliest practicable date. Turnover £11.21 million (£9.3 million). Pretax profit £204,000 (loss £37,000). Earnings per share 2.9p (loss 17.3p). The company plans raise about £742,000 (net of expenses) by an underwritten rights issue of 2.63 million new ordinary shares at 30p each on a one-for-two basis.

Higher half-time profits are reported by the British Car Auctions Group, which is based in Huddersfield, Surrey. In the six months to Jan. 31 last gross auction proceeds rose from £708.1 million to £731.37 million. Pretax profit on ordinary activities expanded from £3.53 million to £4.74 million. The company also reports extraordinary profits after tax of £1.97 million (nil). Earnings per share reached 3.8p (2.9p). BCAA's interim dividend is going up from 1.25p to 1.5p. The results for the 1985 half-year have been restated in respect of the US. The board is confident of good results for the current year.

STANDARD CHARTERED PLC

1985 RESULTS

The Directors announce the results of Standard Chartered Group for 1985, as follows:

	1985	1984
	£ million	£ million
Trading profit		
Company and subsidiaries	205.4	157.5
Share of associated companies	62.5	82.1
Profit before taxation	267.9	239.6
Taxation:		
United Kingdom	(41.4)	33.5
Overseas	60.9	65.3
Share of associated companies	23.3	32.0
	125.6	130.8
Minority interests	142.3	108.8
	9.6	8.7
Profit before extraordinary items	132.7	100.1
Extraordinary items	15.7	(26.7)
Profit attributable to members of the Company	148.4	73.4
Dividends: Interim	16.3	14.8
Final	31.1	29.5
Profit retained	101.0	29.1
Earnings per share	85.3p	64.4p

DIVIDEND: The Directors will recommend at the Annual General Meeting on 8th May, 1986, a final dividend of 20.0 pence per share, making a total distribution for 1985 of 30.5 pence per share. The final dividend will be paid on 16th May, 1986, to shareholders on the Register on 11th April, 1986.

Standard Chartered

Notice to members

C&G Mortgage Rates Down

Mortgages completed after 1st January 1986

In accordance with the Mortgage Conditions notice is given of the following Mortgage Base Rates:

C&G Base Rate 1: 12%	effective from 6 April 1986
C&G Base Rate 2: 12.5%	effective from 6 April 1986
12%	effective from 1 June 1986
C&G Base Rate 3: 11.75%	effective from 6 April 1986

(Cheltenham Goldloan)

These reductions also apply to mortgage offers already made but not yet completed.

Under the Annual Instalment Review procedure there will be no change in borrowers' monthly mortgage payments.

All changes in mortgage rates during 1986, whether up or down, together with the change in the basic rate of income tax, will be taken into account when calculating new monthly mortgage payments payable from March 1987. A full explanation of the Annual Instalment Review was given in the 'Important Notice: Introducing a New Mortgage Payment System' sent to borrowers in January 1986. No individual notices will be issued to borrowers on changes of mortgage rates.

All other Mortgages

Borrowers will receive notice shortly of their revised instalments and rates of interest in accordance with the terms of their Mortgage Deeds.

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

Chief Office: Cheltenham House, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos GL50 3JR. Tel: 0242 36161

● **JOHN CROWTHER GROUP:** Final dividend for 1985, 0.5p. Turnover £37.98 million (£10.86 million). Pretax profit £1.83 million (£14,000). Earnings per share 12.5p (5.7p).

● **EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE:** Total dividend for 1985 6.7p (5.6p). The board reports that 1985 was another good year, both in terms of profits and of new business secured. The total long-term business profits allocated to the policyholders and shareholders were £27.5 million, compared with £60.5 million for 1984.

● **BELL GROUP:** Interim results to December 31 (Aus \$000): Net 55,780 (26,850). Turnover 361,040 (286,020). Interim dividend 5c (same).

● **KIRSH TRADING GROUP:** Figures produced in Johannesburg show share loss diluted 32.7c (profit 10.7c) for the six months to December 31, a pretax loss of £36.69 million (profit \$9.75 million).

● **CLOSE BROTHERS GROUP:** Results for six months to January 31, £600: Pretax profit 1,145 (866). Tax 417 (323). Minority interests debt 6 (nil). Eps 5.58p (4.2p). Interim dividend 2.8p (2.625p), payable May 2.

● **C H BRAZER (HLDGS):** Results for six months to December 31, and two-for-one scrip issue. (Figures in £000): Turnover 139,562 (65,844). Pretax profit 10,664 (6,615). Tax 3,519 (2,315). Extraordinary credit 1,030 (nil). Eps 22.5p (20.3p). Interim dividend 4.6p (4p), payable May 16. The company has forecast a total dividend on the existing capital of not less than 14p (12p).

● **JOHN MAUNDERS GROUP:** Half-year to Dec. 31, 1985. Interim dividend 2.4p (2.25p). Turnover £12.37 million (£8.78 million). Pretax profit £856,000 (£936,000). Earnings per share 7.9p (7.6p).

● **A MARTIN HOLDINGS:** Results for 1985 (Figures in £000): Turnover 38,800 (34,580). Operating profit 1,985 (1,754). Net finance charge 698 (632). Pretax profit 1,377 (1,122). Tax 228 (237). Minority interests 37 (94). Earnings from operations 1,112 (791). Extraordinary debits 60 (debits 110). Profit attributable 1,052 (681). Eps 11.5p (9.9p). Final dividend 2.4p (2p), making 3.6p (3p). The board proposes to raise about £2.1 million (net) by an underwritten rights issue of 2.69 million new ordinary shares, on a two-for-seven basis, at 83p each. For 1986, the directors expect to be able to recommend at least the maintenance of the 3.6p total dividend.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	12 1/4%
Adam & Company	11 3/4%
BCEI	11 3/4%
Citibank Savings	12 1/4%
Consolidated Crut	12 1/4%
Continental Trust	11 1/2%
Co-operative Bank	11 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	11 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	11 1/2%
Nat Westminster	11 1/2%
Royal Bank of Scotland	11 1/2%
TSB	11 1/2%
Citibank NA	11 1/2%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

NatWest Mortgage Rate

With effect from 26th March, 1986 for new borrowers, and from 1st May for existing borrowers, the NatWest Mortgage Rate payable under current Mortgage Deeds and Conditions of Offer will be decreased from 13.00% p.a. to 12.00% p.a.

National Westminster Home Loans Limited
41-Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP

Discount house accepts new bid

The surprise bidder for Smith St Aubyn, the discount house, was revealed yesterday as King and Shaxton, another discount house which already owns 350,000 Smith shares. It has made an offer for the rest under a complex formula.

As a result, the Smith board has withdrawn its recommendation to shareholders to accept a previously announced offer by Irving Trust and to accept the King offer instead.

For each Smith share the King offer is an amount in King shares which equals 1.157 times net tangible assets plus 6p, subject to a maximum of 69.42p.

If the asset value exceeds 54p that excess will, to the extent permitted by law, be distributed through a special dividend to the existing Smith shareholders on the offer becoming unconditional.

The asset value means the net tangible assets attributable to each ordinary share at the

close of business on the day on which the offer becomes or is declared unconditional as to acceptances on the basis of the audited consolidated balance sheet of Smith and its subsidiaries.

King & Shaxton offer	Irving offer
Asset value	57.2p
44p	47p
45p	50.0p
46p	50.2p
47p	51p
48p	51.3p
49p	52p
50p	52.5p
51p	53p
52p	53.5p
53p	54p
54p	54.5p
55p	55p
56p	55.5p
57p	56p
58p	56.5p
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72p	63.5p
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74p	64.5p
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76p	65.5p
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79p	67p
80p	67.5p
81p	68p
82p	68.5p
83p	69p
84p	69.5p
85p	70p
86p	70.5p
87p	71p
88p	71.5p
89p	72p
90p	72.5p
91p	73p
92p	73.5p
93p	74p
94p	74.5p
95p	75p
96p	75.5p
97p	76p
98p	76.5p
99p	77p
100p	77.5p

Assuming a formula asset value of 46p estimated by the board of Smith as being the value last Friday, and assuming full acceptance, the offer will cost £12.8 million and involve the issue of approximately 6.7 million new King shares.

Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, and John Govett and Co will make a cash offer

of 164p for each new King share.

The cash alternative is worth 3p per Smith share more than the rival offer by Irving Trust. The shares offer is estimated to be worth at least 10.8p per share more.

No offer will be made for any of the 4.2 per cent preference shares, the 9.5 per cent second preference shares or the 7 per cent subordinated unsecured loan stock 1986-91 of Smith.

The King directors intend to recommend a final dividend of not less than 5.75p net for the year to April 30. The acquisition of Smith will increase King's capital base, which King sees as an important advantage in the increasingly competitive discount house markets.

The Bank of England has been consulted about the offer and has indicated that it has no objection to the proposed acquisition of Smith by King.

IN BRIEF

St Ives offer

St Ives has received acceptances for its offer for 93.9 per cent of Richard Clay preference shares. The offer is now wholly unconditional and remains open for acceptances until further notice.

Bullers buy

Bullers, manufacturer of furniture and consumer products, has completed the purchase of Caverswall China Company from the receiver for £150,000.

Factory plan

The Great British T-Shirt Company, a promotional clothing specialist based at Brighton, is planning a £4 million Midlands factory.

Added sugar

The Tokyo Sugar Exchange has granted its first foreign associate memberships to two London-based sugar companies, E D and F Man International and C. Czarnikow.

Japanese deal

Philips Lamps, Nippon Chemi-Con Corporation and Nippon Steel Corporation are in the final stage of establishing a joint company in Japan to make ceramic electronic components. Philips will have 40 per cent and the two Japanese companies 30 per cent each.

More stores

Ravenside, part of the Land Securities Group, has added to its retail warehouse portfolio with stores in Dundee, Wolverhampton, Dewsbury and Bristol. The schemes together involve a capital content of about £7.7 million.

Bank moving

The Union Bank of Switzerland and Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker which it is acquiring, will move to phase three of the Broadgate office development at London's Liverpool Street Station at the end of 1987.



Financial statement, 1985

SKF Group sales for 1985 rose 11 per cent to 19,758 million Swedish kronor. Profit after financial items totalled 1,376 million kronor (1,328 million in 1984).

	Jan-Dec 1985	Jan-Dec 1984
Sales (MSkr)	19,758	17,843
Operating income after depreciation (MSkr)	1,389	1,442
Profit after financial income and expense (MSkr)	1,376	1,328
Capital expenditure (MSkr)	788	727
Average number of employees	44,265	43,869

In Europe, SKF increased its market shares in both bearings and other products, and strengthened its market positions in Latin America and South East Asia. SKF Industries in the USA could not adapt quickly enough to the changing market which hit US bearing producers as a whole.

The steel sector was affected by weakening demand. Cutting tools income, however, improved, and sales were up by 16 per cent. SKF Component Systems sales rose 30 per cent.

Capital expenditure increased to 788 million kronor (727), while inventories as a percentage of the year's turnover decreased to 37 per cent (40).

The SKF Group forecasts a 10 per cent sales rise for 1986. Profit is expected to be about the same as in 1985.

The Board recommends a 3 kronor dividend lift for A and B shares to 10 kronor, the same level as C shares.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 29 April 1986.

Aktiebolaget SKF, S-415 50 Göteborg, Sweden.

Beer kits win export award

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Five companies, including a maker of home-brew beer kits and a publisher of English-Arab industrial guides, have won the 1986 export awards for smaller businesses sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board, British Caledonian Airways, Midland Bank and Thomas Cook.

They will share £25,000 cash, plus £5,000 worth of business air travel for each winner, with up to £2,000 in

additional benefits including some for employees.

Brewing Products (UK), which manufactures home wine making and home-brew beer kits at Consett, Co. Durham, has developed exports by appointing distributors in Australia and New Zealand.

The publisher, Beacon Publications of Weston Favell, Northampton, produces industrial guides and directories

for the Middle East, with electronic data bases.

The other winners are Access Engineering, of Pontefract, West Yorkshire, makers of platforms as an alternative to traditional scaffolding; Smith & Telford, of Hawick, in the Scottish borders, manufacturers of cashmere and lambswool knitwear; and Dunkirk Metals, Nottingham, which produces aluminium deoxidants from scrap.

IMI profits soar by £45.1 million

By Claire Dobie

IMI, which is bidding for Martonair International, a valve manufacturer, yesterday announced record profits of £57.8 million before tax for the year to December, up from £45.1 million.

Mr Eric Swainson, the outgoing managing director, said he hoped the bid for Martonair would not be referred to the Monopolies Commission, even though the

two companies would account for 20 per cent of the home market for control equipment. The terms of the bid, which are recommended by the Martonair board, value the company at £83 million. Mr Swainson said further acquisitions would follow.

The largest profit increase came from the titanium and copper refining businesses, where profits increased from

£4.5 million to £11.9 million. The company supplies titanium to the aerospace industry and is benefiting from the success of Rolls-Royce.

Cornelius, the drinks dispenser company acquired four years ago, was the only major area to suffer a downturn, with profits falling from £13.0 million to £12.5 million. Interest payable fell by £1 million.

Combined English Stores Group plc

Profits Growth Continues

Combined English Stores has again shown major profits growth in all divisions. This year's record results reflect the success of the groups strategy and the potential for continuing growth

"The last year has been important in the development of the Group. We have achieved excellent results with turnover increasing by 17%, profit before tax by 34% and earnings per share have risen by 27%.

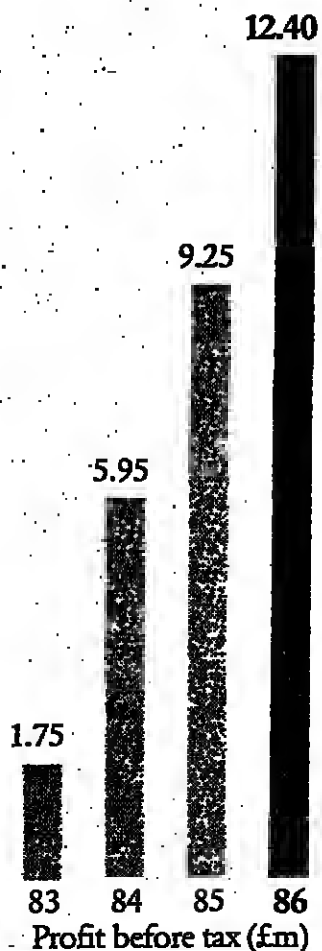
The results of the last three years, the strong balance sheet, low gearing and continued improvement in the quality of earnings is all the result of careful planning instigated by the management team. It is significant that in January 1983 our market capitalisation was no more than £15m. Today it exceeds £125m."

Murray Gordon
Chairman

Summary of Results

For the 52 weeks ended 25 January 1986 - unaudited

	1986	1985
	£m	£m
Turnover	142.76	121.91
Profit before tax	12.40	9.25
Earnings per share	13.09p	10.34p
Dividends for the year (net)	6.71p	4.90p

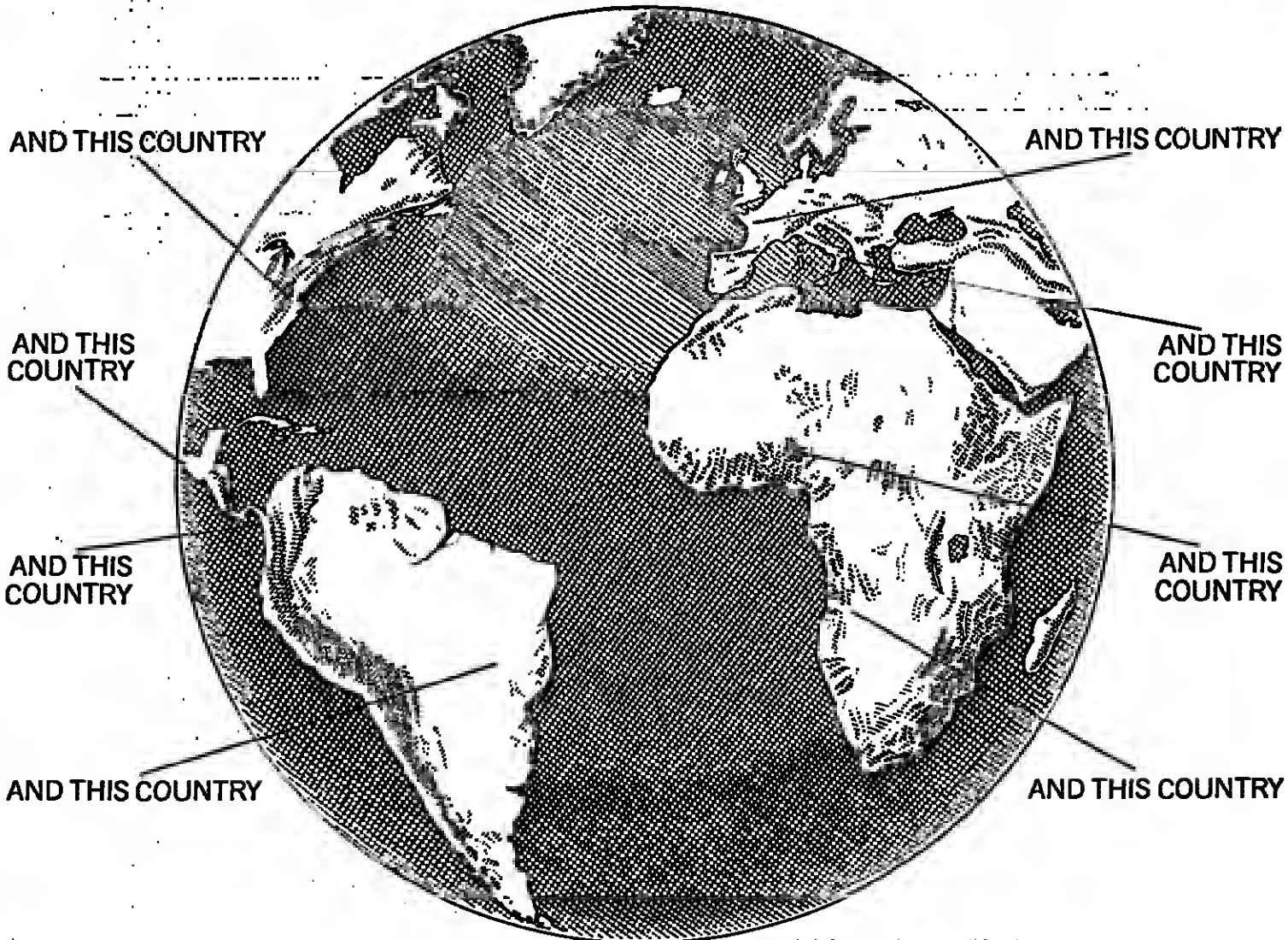


If you would like a copy of the 1986 Annual Report, please apply to:
The Company Secretary,
Combined English Stores Group plc,
1-6 Clay Street, London W1H 3FS.
Telephone 01-486 3331

Combined
English
Stores
Group plc

Principal subsidiary companies: *Salisbury Handbags, Collingwoods the County Jewellers, Allan Cheviot, Boba Fashion Group (West Germany), Eurocamp Holidays.*

In this country, we're well known for our distribution services to major organisations.



Ocean has always been an international organisation.

We began life a century ago as a shipping line, pioneering major trade routes to the Far East and Australia, and swiftly built a reputation for going further than any of our competitors, in terms of service as well as nautical miles.

Today, as well as shipping, we operate in areas such as freight forwarding, offshore oil support and warehousing.

But the legacy of our early days remains clearly visible. As much as ever, our success is based on quality of service.

And as much as ever, it is based on doing business all over the world; on offering the right service, in the right place, at the right time.

Which is why our cargo shipping activities are now concentrated in key areas such as the UK/West Africa trade route.

And why we have moved into businesses such as ship towage and offshore oil support. Cory Towage is

one of the world's largest towage companies, operating as far afield as Canada, Angola and Colombia. And O.I.L., our offshore oil support company, is probably the most profitable British company of its kind, serving the oil industry in West Africa, America and the Middle East as well as in the North Sea.

On land and in the air, our international presence has grown along with our specialised warehousing and freight forwarding operations.

McGregor Cory Warehousing now has over three million square feet spread strategically throughout Europe. And MSAS is among the top ten freight forwarders in the world.

In all, we have 7500 staff, in over forty businesses, in twenty-eight countries around the world.

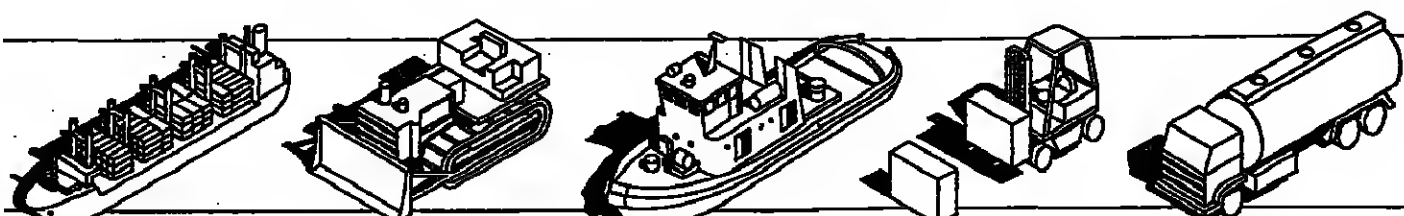
Facts which are extremely important.

Variety, after all, is not only the spice of life.

It's also the source of strength and stability.



We can handle it.



OCEAN TRANSPORT & TRADING plc, 47 RUSSELL SQUARE, LONDON WC1B 4JP.

New Woolwich Interest Rates

from 1st April 1986
Investment Rates

SHARE ACCOUNTS	6.00% = 8.45%
CASHBASE ACCOUNTS	6.50% = 9.15%
PRIME ACCOUNTS	8.00% = 11.27%
	8.25% = 11.62%
	8.50% = 11.97%
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	8.52% = 12.00%

The rate of interest on all other personal accounts will be decreased by 1.0% from 1st April 1986. These new rates give Woolwich savers and investors an excellent choice. There is no limit to the amount you can have invested.

Mortgage Rates

12.00%	8.52%
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For Woolwich borrowers with account numbers beginning 91, 94 and 96, the interest charged on mortgages for the purchase or improvement of owner occupied residential property will be reduced to 12% from 1st April, 1986; for other mortgages the same rate of 12% will apply from 1st May, 1986.

The normal effect of this reduction will be to shorten the term of repayment mortgages. However, if your present monthly payment is based on at least a 12.75% interest table, payments can be reduced on application to your local branch. If you have an endowment mortgage, we will be writing to you with details of revised monthly payments within the next week or so. Where an offer of a mortgage was made before 22nd March, 1986 but has not been completed the interest rate quoted will be reduced to 12% with effect from 1st April, 1986. In the case of offers made for further advances, the decreased rate will apply from the date on which the principal mortgage rate changes. The amount of the revised monthly payment will be notified following completion or can be obtained from your branch.



Chief Office: Equitable House, London SE18 6AB

Checkout cash retreats before plastic Darts

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Electronic bill processing on the highest scale so far seen in Britain was launched at Brent Cross shopping centre in north London yesterday with a system developed by Barclaycard, the credit card subsidiary of Barclays Bank. Mr Peter Ellwood, Barclaycard's chief executive, called the new system "potentially the most significant step yet on the road to the cashless society".

So far 22 Brent Cross retailers have agreed to use the new system, called Darts, with a further 30 likely to start using it soon. Among others joining the scheme is Alders at the duty-free outlets in Heathrow Airport's new Terminal Four, where there are expected to be 54 terminals.

The terminals read plastic cards, allowing a bill to be printed out and providing overnight payment for the retailer - who also gains by not having to deal with the paperwork now needed on card transactions. The system is said to be more secure and error free.

Compared with credit card transactions, which take 45 seconds on average, the new system should mean a customer need be detained for only 25 seconds, it is claimed. The average shop transaction employing cash takes about 11 seconds with a further eight seconds if change is needed, it is calculated.

Barclaycard's original aim of setting up around 1,000 terminals around the country is being expanded because of favourable retailer reaction, said Mr Ellwood, who added that it was now likely that several thousand would be installed.

Originally it was planned to use the system only for Barclaycard's own Visa cards and also those of Access, the other big credit card operator supported by a consortium of other clearing banks. But Mr Ellwood announced plans for the terminals to accept most of the best-known plastic cards, including charge cards like American Express and possibly store cards issued by an individual retailer.

Mr Ellwood said Darts was aimed at retailers with large volumes of credit card sales. "Retailers are very enthusiastic about Darts but they want a single electronic plastic card terminal at the point of sale, and not a row of separate machines for different cards."

Darts is being sold as a key step on the way to a national system which could make the cashless society a reality. This is EFTPOS, or electronic funds transfer at point of sale. A wipe of a plastic card and tapping in of a customer's personal identification number could mean payment of bills by instant debit from a customer's bank account and crediting to the retailer.

Chemicals fear skill shortage

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The chemical industry is facing a shortage of skilled manpower while university places for the design and process engineers it needs are unfilled, the Chemical Industry Association said yesterday.

"The industry is failing to attract young people," Mr Martin Trowbridge, according to the association's director-general. The association in its annual survey of members' investment intentions says that after a rise in 1985 the rise in new capital spending by the industry is expected to reach nearly £1.5 billion this year.

In the three years to the end of 1988 the industry plans to spend £4.4 billion on new plant, modernization and measures to save energy and protect the environment. Although still below the investment peak of 1977-79 spending plans are more than 17 per cent higher than in the previous three-year period.

Mr Trowbridge said: "This year's investment intentions programme will continue to support the industry's rationalization and cost saving measures."

"If achieved it will maintain the UK's increased share of EEC capital spending."

"Part of the reason for the strength of the upturn in investment in 1985 and the spill over into 1986 has been the acceleration in spending due to changes in Government regional policies and tax legislation."

Hickson International profit slips

Hickson International was hit by currency devaluations and severe competition in the chemicals industry in 1985, the company says.

Pretax profit was down from £14.96 million to £13.12 million. But the final dividend was maintained at 10p, making a total of 15p against 14p in 1984.

Hickson says demand has shown an improvement in 1986 and the lower price of oil is expected to mean better margins.

The increased strength of the mark should reverse the downward trend in export prices of chemicals in the

second half of 1985. There is some evidence of increased building activity in Britain which should eventually boost timber protection sales.

The board says the three principal negative factors which affected group performance were:

● Local currency devaluations, which reduced the sterling value of profit in South Africa, New Zealand and Australia by about £800,000;

● Severe competition in the chemicals industry, coupled with dull market conditions, which largely removed the ability to raise selling prices in

order to recover British cost increases;

● And recession in the building industry coupled with adverse publicity about timber-frame houses which reduced the volume of sales of timber protection products at home.

Chemical sales were strong in the first half of 1985, but there was a sharp decline in the last four months leading to a reduction in pretax profit for the sector from £7 million to £6.7 million.

Domestic business failed to show its normal recovery after the summer holidays and exports were affected by the strength of sterling.

No VAT credit claim on non-taxable inputs

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Apple and Pear Development Council

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Brightman and Lord Griffiths

A taxable person (within the meaning of the value-added tax legislation) whose activities consisted in part of the provision of services that did not attract output tax (because such services were provided without consideration), and in part of the supply of goods and services that did, could not claim a credit for tax paid on inputs which were connected with the taxpayer's non-taxable activities.

The House of Lords so held on the appeal of the Apple and Pear Development Council against the decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Kerr) (The Times April 10, 1985; [1985] STC 383).

Howarth J. House adjourned the appeal pending determination by the Court of Justice of the European Communities of the question whether changes imposed on growers amounted to consideration for the services rendered by the council in pursuance of their general activities.

Mr Andrew Park, QC, for the council; Mr John Laws and Mr Robert G. C. J. for the commissioners.

LORD BRIGHTMAN said that in 1981 the commissioners ruled that the council's general activities (those funded by compulsory charges) did not constitute a "business" for value-added tax purposes, with the result that the council could not take credit for input tax on such activities.

On appeal from the value-added tax tribunal's finding that the council did carry on a business, the commissioners argued in the Divisional Court that the general activities of the

council were not performed for a consideration and therefore, so far as those activities were concerned, the services of the council were not "supplies" within the meaning of the legislation.

To constitute a "business" the activity had to include the making of taxable supplies; therefore the input tax paid by the council had to be apportioned. That submission was upheld.

In the Court of Appeal, Lord Justice Fox said: "If an activity neither makes nor is intended to make taxable supplies, I do not think that the draftsman of the Finance Act 1972 can have contemplated that it was a 'business' for the purposes of section 4".

The Divisional Court and the Court of Appeal reached the correct conclusion. The scheme of the legislation was plain. If the business activities of the taxpayer were such that all the supplies which he made were subject to output tax (whether positive rated or zero rated) he recovered all the tax which he paid on the inputs of that business (see sections 5(3) and 4(1)(a) of the 1972 Act).

If all the supplies which he made were exempt supplies, he could recover none and the probability was that he would not even be registered.

If the supplies which he made were partly taxable supplies and partly exempt supplies there was to be an apportionment of the tax and that which was attributable to exempt supplies was not recoverable.

His Lordship asked himself, how, against that background, one could rationally come to the conclusion that if the business activities of the taxpayer were such that some of his supplies were taxable supplies and some were not supplies at all, the whole of the input tax was recoverable.

The matter was put beyond argument by the Sixth European Economic Community Council Directive on the harmonization of the laws of member states relating to turnover taxes (67/228/EEC).

Input tax was not deductible except so far as the goods or services upon which the tax had been levied were for the purposes of the taxpayer's taxable transactions.

The Finance Act 1977 rewrote sections 2 to 6 of the 1972 Act in order to give effect to the Sixth Directive. A court was therefore required to construe the 1972 Act, as amended, in the light of that directive.

The House had considered the case on the hypothesis that the payment of charges imposed compulsorily on growers did not amount to consideration for the services rendered by the council in pursuance of their general activities.

In truth, the first question which ought to be asked was whether or not such charges were consideration. Only if the answer to that question was in the negative did the point so far considered arise.

The Court of Appeal took the view that "consideration" in section 6(2) of the 1972 Act bore its ordinary technical meaning in English law. His Lordship felt less confident.

In the absence of any clear case law of the Court of Justice of the European Communities which was decisive of the matter, it was appropriate for the House to refer to the European Court the question whether the exercise of the council's functions and the imposition of charges on growers amounted to consideration for the services rendered by the council in pursuance of their general activities.

It would be for their Lordships to decide, in the light of that answer, whether the payment of such annual charges by the growers was consideration within the meaning of article 2 of the Sixth Directive.

It would be for their Lordships to decide, in the light of that answer, whether the payment of such annual charges by the growers was consideration within the meaning of the 1972 Act for the supply of services by the council.

Lord Keith, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon and Lord Griffiths agreed.

Solicitors: Park Nelson & Doyle, Devonshire, for Buss Stone & Co, Tunbridge Wells; Customs and Excise Solicitor.

Ill health can frustrate contract of employment

Notcutt v Universal Equipment Co (London) Ltd

Before Lord Justice Dillon and Mr Justice Sheldon

[Judgment given March 14]

The common law doctrine of frustration could apply to a periodic contract of employment determinable by short notice. It applied to frustrate an employee's contract of employment when he was permanently prevented from working by his employment by reason of his ill health.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Mr Derek Notcutt, from the decision of Judge Birks in District Court that the defendants, Universal Equipment Co (London) Ltd, were not liable to pay wages to him during the period of his notice.

Mr R.G.B. Allen for the plaintiff; Mr Andrew Hillier for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the appeal was the first case where the Court of Appeal had been required to consider the application of the doctrine of frustration to a periodic contract of employment, which was determinable by short or relatively short notice where the contract was said to have been frustrated by the illness or incapacity of the employee.

The plaintiff became employed by the defendants in 1957. His wages were at an hourly rate. Subject to statute his employment was originally terminable by a week's notice, and it was a term of his contract that no remuneration would be paid for absence from work due to sickness, injury or incapacity.

However certain further terms were incorporated into his contract by statute under the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978. Under section 49 the notice required to terminate his contract had to be not less than 12 weeks.

Paragraph 3 of Schedule 3 to that Act obliged the defendants to pay the plaintiff at his average hourly rate in so far as during the period of his notice he was incapable of work because of sickness or injury.

The plaintiff had a coronary in 1983 when he was nearly 63

years old. Thereafter he was off work and in July 1984 the plaintiff's doctor wrote in a letter to the defendants that he doubted whether he would ever work again.

The plaintiff himself said that he knew that he would not go on working. Thus the defendants gave the plaintiff notice to terminate his employment.

The plaintiff now claimed entitlement to sick pay under an appropriate contract which he said he had been terminated without notice by frustration according to the accepted and long established doctrine of frustration in the law of contract.

The mere fact that the contract could be terminated by notice could not of itself render the doctrine of frustration inapplicable.

The principles governing the doctrine were conveniently to be found in the speech of Lord Reid and Lord Radcliffe in Davis Contractors Ltd v Fareham Urban District Council (1956) AC 696, 721, 728.

The plaintiff's contract provided that the defendants were not bound to pay him while he was absent due to illness or injury. That reference to injury did not cover an injury which totally disabled him from working in such a case the injury would have caused his contract to be frustrated.

Again if sickness was considered rather than injury the result would be the same. Here both parties appreciated that the plaintiff would not work again.

He was totally incapacitated from performing the contract. The corollary was an unexpected occurrence which made his performance of his contractual obligation to work impossible and brought about such a change in the significance of the mutual obligations that the contract was frustrated.

Notwithstanding the views of Mr Justice Bristow in Harman v Flexible Linings Ltd (1980) IRLR 418, there were cases in the National Industrial Relations Court and the Employment Appeal Tribunal where it was held that contracts of employment terminable by relatively short notice were capable of being terminated without

notice by frustration as a result of an employee's illness. And in Hare v Murphy Brother Ltd (1974) 3 All ER 940 Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, held that a contract of employment was frustrated when the man was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment.

There was no reason in principle why such a periodic contract of employment should not in appropriate circumstances be held to have been terminated without notice by frustration according to the accepted and long established doctrine of frustration in the law of contract.

The mere fact that the contract could be terminated by notice could not of itself render the doctrine of frustration inapplicable.

The principles governing the doctrine were conveniently to be found in the speech of Lord Reid and Lord Radcliffe in Davis Contractors Ltd v Fareham Urban District Council (1956) AC 696, 721, 728.

The plaintiff's contract provided that the defendants were not bound to pay him while he was absent due to illness or injury. That reference to injury did not cover an injury which totally disabled him from working in such a case the injury would have caused his contract to be frustrated.

Again if sickness was considered rather than injury the result would be the same. Here both parties appreciated that the plaintiff would not work again.

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BRITISH AEROSPACE

1985

"A significant year for British Aerospace"

†Results for 1985	1985	1984
	£m	£m
Turnover	2,648	2,468
Trading profit	180	166
Launching costs written off	(52)	(51)
Net interest receivable	19	4
Profit before taxation	150	120
Profit after taxation	127	108
Earnings per share (net basis)	56.4p	53.5p
Dividends per share (net)	15.8p	13.65p

†Extract from preliminary announcement of results for 1985 based on audited accounts for the year to 31st December 1985.

Sales at £2,648 million increased by 7.3% over the previous year's figure of £2,468 million. Exports accounted for 61% of total sales. The outstanding order book at the end of 1985 was valued at £5,138 million* as compared with £4,820 million at the end of 1984. Trading profit at £180.1 million shows an increase of 8.4% over the 1984 figure of £166.2 million. Profit before taxation at £150.5 million represents an increase of 25.2% over the 1984 profit of £120.2 million. The Board has proposed a final dividend of 10.0p per share. This will bring the total dividends paid for 1985 to 15.8p per share - an increase of 15.8% over 1984.

*EXCLUDING ORDERS FROM THE RECENTRAL OF SOVIET UNION

Sir Austin Pearce, Chairman

...up where we belong

British Aerospace Public Limited Company, 100 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5HR.

Subjective test for 'reliable device'

Thompson v Thyne

Before Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Webster

[Judgment given March 18]

The words "reliable device" in section 83(b) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, as substituted in Schedule 8 of the Transport Act 1981, should be construed subjectively and should be given the meaning "a device which the operator reasonably believes to be reliable".

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held dismissing an appeal by way of case stated from Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court which had upheld the defendant's conviction of driving a motor car after consuming alcohol over the prescribed limits in contravention of section 60 of the Road Traffic Act 1972 as substituted.

Mr Justice Taylor so held in the Queen's Bench Division on March 4 in dismissing an application by the London branch of clerical, admin-

istrative and executive personnel of Sogat 82 and the syndication international clerical chapel for directions in proceedings pursuant to an order of Mr Justice Michael Davies on February 10, 1986 giving leave for a writ of sequestration to be issued by the plaintiffs, News Group Newspapers Ltd against the defendants, Sogat 82.

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control and administration of the property of the union should be in the hands of the same trustees as those in whom the property was vested. There was a distinction to be drawn between the nature of the relationship between the trustees and members of a social club, which was upon a contractual basis, and the instant case. The funds administered by the branch and the chapel were the property of Sogat and accordingly came within the ambit of the sequestration proceedings.

This advertisement is published by N.M. Rothschild & Sons Limited and J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited on behalf of Hanson Trust Pl.C. The Directors of Hanson Trust Pl.C. are the persons responsible for the information contained in this advertisement. To the best of their knowledge and belief (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this advertisement is in accordance with the facts. The Directors of Hanson Trust Pl.C. accept responsibility accordingly.

UNITED BISCUITS	HANSON TRUST
United Biscuits' best and final bid values your Imperial shares at 335.3p.	Hanson Trust's best and final bid values your Imperial shares at 362.9p.
United Biscuits' earnings per share have grown by 9.2% p.a. over the last 5 years.	Hanson Trust's earnings per share have grown by 33.9% p.a. over the last 5 years.
United Biscuits' shareholders have, over the last 5 years, seen their dividends grow by 13.2% p.a.	Hanson Trust shareholders have, over the last 5 years, seen their dividends grow by 28.7% p.a.

A few facts for every Imperial shareholder caught in the middle of the current takeover battle.

United Biscuits gives you the option of taking well under half their offer in cash.	Hanson Trust gives you the option of a 100% cash alternative.
United Biscuits would be buying a company 2½ times its own size.	Hanson Trust would be buying a company smaller than itself.
£1,000 invested in United Biscuits in 1980 would now be worth £3,100.	£1,000 invested in Hanson Trust in 1980 would now be worth £13,300.

Having read both sides of the argument we think you will see why we find it hard to believe that the Imperial board does not, in your interests, favour the Hanson Trust offer. We recommend you accept it.

H A N S O N T R U S T 

CONTINUING GROWTH FROM BASIC BUSINESSES.

The values of Hanson Trust's and United Biscuits' offers depend on their respective share prices. The above offer values are for Hanson Trust's Share and Convertible Stock Election and United Biscuits' Offer based on the market prices at 3.30 p.m. on March 25, 1986. The Offer values take account of estimates by Hoare Govett Limited of the values, at the relevant ordinary share prices, of the 10 per cent. convertible loan stock of Hanson and the convertible preferred shares of United Biscuits. The capital comparison is based on information supplied by DataStream and assumes £1,000 net of expenses had been invested in each case adjusted for subsequent rights issues (assuming no new net investment) and capitalisation issues.

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STATE SOURCE
MTCB

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

HOTELS £10,500 Large international hotel group seeks dynamic, efficient Sec/PA to look after the MD. Excellent PAY/PV required. Please send CV to: abbatt CITY: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188	ADMIN ASSIST £9,000 World of offices, top top PA needed now for Financial Director of this prestigious group. Competitive & responsible person to take on projects: own initiative, computer own experience, must be a team player. No short-term, IBM experience a plus. French a plus. Staff discuss & interview offices. CITY: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188	TRADING PLACES The Top Sec/PA needed for company brokers dealing in Gold, Silver, Platin. Past year - you must thrive on pressure. A enjoy a challenge. Please forward a recent CV, mortgage facilities, STLS, excellent working conditions. REC. CONS CITY: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188	CALIBRE £9,500 Irresistible opportunity for bright young Sec/PA to join the elite in this dynamic young company. High level of education (A level minimum), top academic (100/100) exam, excellent communication ability essential. Excellent promotion prospects. CITY: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188	CITY SLICKER £10,500 A top PA job for well-organised efficient & energetic person with good education to work in the Corporate Office of the Financial Services Company. Lots of close contact dealing with V.I.P. great prospects for growth with 100% skills, enthusiasm and drive. CITY: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188	MARKETING £24,210,000 A major S/H position is required for the marketing of a new product. The successful candidate will be a graduate of a university with a degree in Marketing. A graduate with a degree in Marketing, a graduate with a degree in Marketing, a graduate with a degree in Marketing. CITY: 01-481 2345 WEST END: 01-938 2188	ESTABLISHED ART GALLERY KENSINGTON Efficient, intelligent admin/assistant required for typing, filing, bookkeeping, research and customer handling. Hours Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 6pm. Start £9,000 pa. Tel: 01-352 9095.
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Temporaries Controller

MacBlain Nash is a broadly based recruitment consultancy with an active presence in the highly competitive temporaries market. In order to develop and maintain our position in this market we need to recruit an additional Temporaries Controller. Applicants must be committed to a career in recruitment and must be experienced in running a temporaries team and really enjoy a demanding and pressurised environment. Salary will be above average and is negotiable according to experience. Initial contact should be by letter stating an evening telephone number. This should be addressed to Mr. Geoffrey Nash.

MacBlain NASH
 Associates
 01-37 1014
 Recruitment Consultants 130 Regent Street, London W1R 5FE

Where do Temporaries get Bank Holiday pay?

If you are a Temporary with Brook Street, you not only qualify for Bank Holiday pay but you are entitled to four weeks holiday and free word processor training, all after a short qualifying period.

BROOK STREET
 An equal opportunity employer

Combine your Secretarial Skills with your interest in the Popular Music Scene

The International Finance and Administration sections servicing the Warner, Electra and Atlantic labels of Warner Communications Inc's record group is moving to central London creating a number of interesting secretarial posts. We would therefore like to talk to young (19-22) recently qualified secretaries who can demonstrate good skills. Previous word processing experience would be an advantage. Good presentation, social confidence, and a bright 'on the ball' approach are essential. The working environment whilst totally professional is also very lively and our client offers an attractive range of benefits. Applicants should apply in confidence to Ben Dixey on (0962) 53319 (24 hour service) or write to Johnson Wilson & Partners, Ludgate House, 107-111 Fleet Street, London EC4A 3DF quoting ref. 674.

Johnson Wilson & Partners
 Management Recruitment Consultants

OXFORD CIRCUS

Senior Solicitors litigation PA/Secretary to take charge of Principals section and keep the wheels turning smoothly. Administrative ability, sound litigation secretarial experience and audio skills necessary. Top salary commensurate with top job.

Telephone: Mr Burton. 01-439 4661.

SENIOR SECRETARY AGE 23-25 SALARY £8,500

We are looking for an experienced secretary to work with an Associate Director of our Public Relations division which is part of an established Management Consultancy based in Covent Garden. The role will involve all classic secretarial duties and fast, accurate typing skills are essential requirements. The office is fully automated, WP knowledge would be a distinct advantage. You must be well presented and have good personal skills. If you are looking for variety, involvement and responsibility, please contact Jean Byatt, Secretary to the Managing Director at the Lloyd Group on: 930 5161.

LONDON ZOO REQUIRES EXPERIENCED SECRETARY FOR DIRECTOR

Interesting, responsible and varied duties which call for sense of initiative and experience in dealing with people at all levels concerned with Wildlife Conservation and Zoo's. Excellent secretarial skills and word processing experience essential. Salary in scale rising to £7,966 pa inclusive (July review) according to age and experience. Hours: 9.30 - 5.30, Monday - Friday. Permanent position. Staff cafeteria. Apply in writing, giving full details and enclosing a.s.e. for reply to: The Establishment Officer, Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London NW1 4EY.

EXECUTIVE PA £11,000

Liner Chartering Company close to London Bridge Station seek mature PA, aged 25-40, for their Managing Director. This is a responsible position requiring excellent audio WP skills (shorthand an advantage but not essential). Current shipping/liner company experience is required together with good presentation and ability to work on own initiative. Non-smokers only. Please telephone Angela Gallone or Jackie Gambrell on 01-403 0978.

ALFRED MARKS RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

INTERNATIONAL LAWYER SMALL MAYFAIR OFFICE

International Lawyer requires Secretary/PA with good S/H and typing. No previous legal experience is necessary but applicants should be between 23-40 with smart appearance, pleasant manner and able to communicate with an international business clientele. Four weeks holiday, season ticket loan and salary in the region of £10,000 +. Please ring: 01-493 9631

PA SECRETARY £10,000 pa neg

A small creative marketing consultancy with large vision based in Holland Park require a super efficient PA secretary to work with 2 demanding Directors. Hard working but informal environment. Shorthand audio skills and fast typing are essential.

Telephone: 01-229 2041
 and ask for David Bennett at Nigel Lysons.

CFY PUBLIC RELATIONS to £9,000

I've been promoted and therefore need to find a secretary/PA for 2 senior PR Directors of this rapidly growing City Agency specialising in financial and corporate public relations. They need your administrative, secretarial and WP skills (90/50). You will work closely with them and their clients as they plan PR strategy for a wide range of business organisations, organise events and liaise with business journalists. We are part of a major City/West Side advertising agency. If you are looking for a job that is demanding, interesting and rewarding, Telephone Anna on 01-583 2625. ST JAMES'S PUBLIC RELATIONS 4/7 Red Lion Court, Fleet St, London EC4A 3EB

P.A./ADMINISTRATOR c.£8,000

for Director of well known firm of International Recruitment Consultants, based in the West End. You will need good secretarial skills, energy, imagination and commercial skills. Ours is a people business and you will quickly be given real responsibility for admin. and client development if you have the right personality. Please contact John Steeds or Richard Roberts at ARA International on 01-629 2356.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

Communicate in TV £8,000

Became involved in the dynamic world of TV and advertising when you joined the Sales & Marketing Director of the young company. Based in modern offices in the West End, you will utilise your organisational capabilities and excellent communication skills. In addition to the day-to-day administration and management, the company offers superb benefits. With good typing and shorthand call PA/HR on 01-221 8072. *The Drake Report* - THE DRAKE INTERNATIONAL GROUP

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Administrative Assistant required by general secretary of the WI to co-ordinate the central secretariat and to manage the principal committees. We are looking for a candidate with some years experience of working for a National Organisation, familiar with all aspects of committee work, able to work on their own under pressure but with good inter-personal skills. The post is London based and requires secretarial skills, good educational qualifications, particularly in the use of English, and an organised approach to work and time management. Secretarial back-up provided. Salary £9,000 - £11,000 net. Please ring or write for an application form to Isabella Moorhead, Personnel Officer, NSW, 39 Eckenstone Street, London SW1W 9NT. Tel: 01-730 7212. Application forms to be returned by 14th April 1986.

PROPERTY CO, W1

Mature, experienced Secretary/P.A. with good Shorthand and Typing (90/50) to work with Company Secretary of prestigious and friendly young team in elegant surroundings. Successful applicants will be trained on WP. Benefits include excellent salary and working conditions. For further details ring: Trisha Love on 01-437 9413

EXECUTIVE PERSONAL ASSISTANT

With experience of operating HP 150/Wordstar. Must be of good education and be able to work diligently on his/her own from private house near Regents Park. 01-730 9511.

CITY SECRETARY

Expanding Building Consultancy seeks a professional young Secretary to join their rapidly growing team. Alternative City office near Liverpool St. Station. The successful candidate will be required to work on own initiative and be capable of producing a high level of output in a cheerful manner. Skills must include shorthand and typing and WP experience. Salary c. £8,000 p.a. and other benefits include corporate membership of local sports club. Please send CV to: Mrs Linda Lewis, B. C. Gardner & Company Ltd., 8/9 Regent St W.P., London EC2R 2EP. Tel: 01-283 7962.

PERSONNEL SEC/ADMIN £9,000 + Mig

Expanding US Bank urgently require a bright, organised secretary/administrator to provide support to two busy Personnel Officers. Candidates must possess excellent organisational skills, typing of 60wpm, flexibility and an O level education. Age 21+.

Personnel Services
 01 236 1113

A dynamic young marketing consultancy is looking for a dynamic young secretary

We're a successful 3 year old, 6 person strong marketing consultancy in Smithfield working in light, modern, open plan offices. We're looking for a second secretary to join us, probably in her early 20's, educated to at least 'A' level, with no less than 60 wpm on an IBM word processor and 100 wpm shorthand. Salary negotiable dependent upon experience or skills. If you're interested write to David Drakes at Box E48 telling us why you fit the bill.

PERSONNEL OFFICER To £12,000

Personal Officer with 3 years experience required by this leading W1 Publishing House. Take responsibility for all aspects of Personnel Administration for 400 staff. Interviewing and selection of Admin. Secretarial, Production and Junior Management Staff. Handle salaries, administration and personnel counselling. Identify EPR4 qualifications, however experience at this level most important. Tel. Options Personnel Consultants on 01-453 8969

SECRETARY

A newly created post of Principal Secretary is available in connection with the appointment of a Public Relations Adviser who will be involved in setting up and directing a 'university' information unit. This is a senior appointment and applicants should have good telephone experience, word processing skills would be an advantage. Normal office hours 9.30 - 5.30, Monday to Friday, with four weeks holiday plus additional days at public holidays. Salary not less than £9,700 per annum. Please apply to Miss Audrey Worsfold, Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of the Universities of the United Kingdom, 29 Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9EZ. Telephone: 01-387 9231, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

GERMAN

Knightsbridge: We are looking for a bright, enthusiastic and experienced Secretary (and 2/3 with the job of secretarial skills) to join a small, friendly and busy team as Secretary to the Chief Executive and others. Lovely new office, competitive profit. Salary c. £8,000, and 4 weeks holiday.

CITY: A good leading package and a salary of around £10,000 are offered by a subsidiary which specialises in export finance. First class and other language ready. This is a busy, busy group of secretaries where you will be working in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. The office and use of the latest equipment. Shorthand not obligatory.

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 Recruitment Consultants
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 London WC2R 0HR
 01-438 39445

WHY NOT JOIN US IN OUR VENTURE?

Shorthand/office secretary/office administrator urgently required for a fast moving international company. Word processor experience, organisational ability and an excellent telephone manner essential. Accustomed to work under pressure. We offer a salary of £10,000 per year with a performance bonus aid annually. There will be 4 weeks holiday. Please telephone us immediately for an interview on 01-229 1942.

BILINGUAL ADMINISTRATION/SECRETARIAL SKILLS

Small team of people working for international non-ferrous metals company require an experienced person with shipping knowledge to handle contract administration, liaise with suppliers and consumers in French as well as undertake light secretarial duties. Good opportunity and remuneration for the right person. TEL: 01 631 4959 Mrs Gamage

PA/SEC FOR ARCHITECTS WOODSTAR (IBM PC)

Small busy W1 office requires fast accurate typing and word-processed Wordstar experience. Non smoker and some of junior secretarial. Salary £8,000. Please send cv to: Lynn Wilson, 8 Wimpole St, London W1 8LP. 01-631 4210.

BRITISH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION

PA/Secretary to President and Chief Executive of this busy professional association representing UK Veterinary Surgeons. West End location. Good audio typing skills, shorthand and word-processed WP training given. Good telephone manner essential/Director level experience preferred. LV's and 4 weeks holiday. Around £8,500 pa. Career details to: The Chief Executive, B.V.A., 7 Mansfield Street, London W1M 0AT.

MARKETING SW1

£10,000 - £12,000
 PA to you in an exciting Property Group needs a professional PA to look after the MD. Excellent PAY/PV required. Please send CV to: **abbatt**
 CITY: 01-481 2345
 WEST END: 01-938 2188

UNDERWRITING ASSISTANTS

Expanding worldwide insurance business requires well educated, efficient, energetic people with good secretarial skills and numeracy to work in a team. Languages and computer abilities are additional advantages but not essential. Good training provided age 22 plus.

Please provide cv. and covering letter to:
BOX D9, The Times, P.O. Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1.

P.A./OFFICE MANAGER £11,000

A medium sized interior design company in Knightsbridge is looking for a young P.A. to cope with younger staff, ordering office supplies and equipment and generally be responsible for the smooth running of the office. 100/60. Age: 22-25.

COLLEGE LEAVER £7,000
 We are looking for a college leaver with 50wpm typing to work in our agency in Knightsbridge. Shorthand useful but not essential, very varied workload. An interest in people essential. One year training given. Age 17-21. We are delighted to announce the start of our new Temporary division.

TM International Ltd
 Recruitment
 50 Finsbury Circus SW1
 01-254 9927

RECEPTIONIST/TYPIST

Required for dynamic, young design consultancy in Notting Hill area. The ideal candidate will have an excellent telephone manner plus good typing and spelling. Salary c. £6,750. Please telephone Caroline on: 01-221 4420 (No agencies)

Super Secretaries

SECRETARY TO MANAGING DIRECTOR £9,500

A leading direct marketing agency based in W2 is looking for a young, outgoing, intelligent secretary to work for the MD. Word processing skills (IBM) preferable as well as a flair for admin. Duties also include travel and lunch arrangements. In return for your commitment (some late nights may be required) we offer a friendly, comfortable and interesting environment. Sounds good? Write, with your CV, to: Liz Van Put WWAV, 35 Chapside, Moscow Road, London W2 4LL or phone 01-727 3481 Ext 213

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE COMPANY MAYFAIR SECRETARY £10,000

An experienced secretary is required for our Group Financial Controller. The successful candidate will have had at least three years experience with an accounting firm, possess excellent secretarial skills (100/70), have a mature disposition and be capable of working on own initiative. Please call: Bruce Woods on 01-493 5516 (No agencies)

P.A./OFFICE MANAGER £11,000

A medium sized interior design company in Knightsbridge is looking for a young P.A. to cope with younger staff, ordering office supplies and equipment and generally be responsible for the smooth running of the office. 100/60. Age: 22-25.

COLLEGE LEAVER £7,000
 We are looking for a college leaver with 50wpm typing to work in our agency in Knightsbridge. Shorthand useful but not essential, very varied workload. An interest in people essential. One year training given. Age 17-21. We are delighted to announce the start of our new Temporary division.

TM International Ltd
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 50 Finsbury Circus SW1
 01-254 9927

RECEPTIONIST FOR AD. AGENCY

Highly active advertising agency near Covent Garden is looking for a super person to enhance the image of the company. Will have to cope with the switchboard and telex as well as hours of visitors everyday. Age 25-40. The lovely person chosen will get a lovely salary. Call Ann Hall on 01-636 5901. (No agencies).

SOUTH BANK BOARD SECRETARY in the Chairman's Office

The Arts Council's South Bank Board is seeking to appoint a Secretary to the Executive Chairman to work with his present Senior Personal Secretary. The position calls for first class shorthand and typing qualifications (minimum speeds 100/50), a willingness to be trained in word processing, if not already proficient, and involves all associated secretarial skills. Applicants should have a pleasant telephone manner, be able to work under pressure and be used to high standards of accuracy. The post would offer a young person invaluable experience at high level as a useful second step in a career. Starting salary circa £7,500, subject to review after trial period. Please telephone for an application form 01-491 0364, or write to the South Bank Board, 105 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AU. Closing date for receipt of completed forms: 8th April 1986.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

We are the London based agent of the largest European Glass Manufacturer supplying specialised products to the building industry. We require a Secretary/Administrator with a good educational background and with a confident manner. The person will often work unsupervised and will form an important link between our factories and UK customers. A good telephone manner and accurate typing are essential. Shorthand useful. Good remuneration package offered. Please send CV, with current salary to: Mr. G. Myles, 19 Dunraven Street, London W1Y 4JR. (No agencies) (Private and Confidential)

PRESS SECRETARY IN EUROPE

The Press and PR department of the Conservative Group in the European Parliament requires a secretary for its Brussels office. This is an interesting but demanding post where a flexible approach to working hours is required with considerable travel to community countries. A good working knowledge of French is essential and media experience desirable, as well as the usual secretarial skills. Salary after deductions approximately £12,000. Please reply to: Ken Parish Head of Press and PR 2 Queens Anne's Gate London SW1H 9AA

Individual career 50wpm or secretaries and personal assistants

THE SOUTH BANK CENTRE

MARLBOROUGH EMPLOYMENT CONSULTANCY

SECRETARY/PA c. £10,000
 Friendly, capable person needed to help establish new office for Japanese construction Co in West End. Working for two Managing Directors and office. Ages 20's to early 30's. JAPANESE SPEAKING. Secretarial/financial staff needed for number of well paid positions in the City. Candidates should be numerate and able to read/write an average of 60-70 wpm. £9,500 plus bonuses and excellent benefits. Ask for Mrs Kamada. SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER c. £10,000
 Required by International Table Co in West End. Working for Deputy General Manager. Lovely busy office. Good English essential. Excellent prospects. Training given on macro computer. Telephone 01-434 4028/9 or 01-734 1380

PROPERTY BUYERS' GUIDE

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The Bellway aim is to give you your independence, not take it away.

Time and thought go into the design of each of our flats, backed by a policy to provide up to 20% more floor space than many other builders. As a result, the flats are well proportioned with one or two bedrooms, a separate Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen and Bathroom. They all have

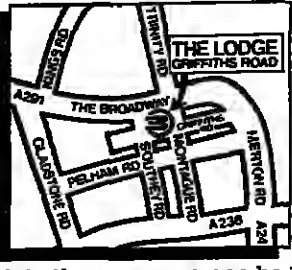
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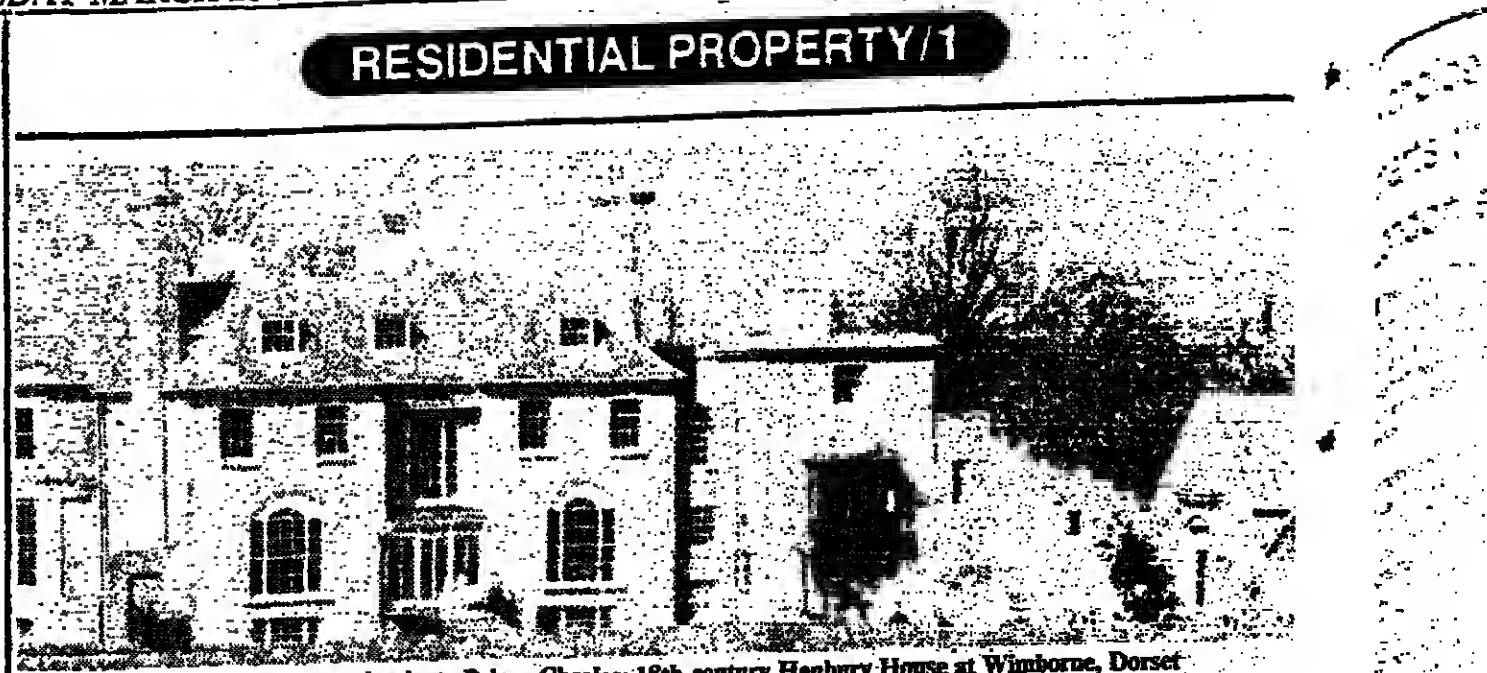
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Rescued from decay, thanks to Prince Charles: 18th-century Henbury House at Wimborne, Dorset

A revival at the mansion

The Prince of Wales' interest in housing and architecture and the preservation of the environment is well known, with his comments on a certain "carbuncle" proposed for Trafalgar Square easily qualifying for a quotation of the year.

He will therefore be pleased to know that his address to the Institute of Directors a year ago on Britain's heritage struck a chord with at least one member of the audience which has resulted in the saving of a fine Georgian mansion which had fallen on unhappy times.

Henbury House, at Wimborne near Bournemouth, was built around 1730 for the Earls of Shaftesbury and was the main house for a 3,000-acre estate. It is a Grade II listed house which has been extensively renovated and has many planning permissions for its future development, but in recent years it was occupied by a lady who lived in one room at a time until it became uninhabitable, a squatter occupied another part.

In January 1985, businessmen Roy Baylis and his brother Guy bought Henbury for £226,000 after it had failed to attract a bid at an earlier auction when the reserve was something over £300,000. They saw an opportunity to revive the house and with it bring life to a small corner of Dorset, but had an open mind about its future. When Prince Charles in his speech challenged directors to "revive and regenerate decaying assets wherever possible", the Baylis brothers were inspired to take the risks and press on.

So far they have spent about £100,000 planning the revival, including £30,000 on architects' fees, and believe that a further £150,000 needs to be spent on the house, with £50,000 on landscaping.

Given estimates of £5,500 for the re-pointing a chimney, they realize the costs involved and are looking either to sell Henbury or to find partners to help them complete the project.

Their plan, approved by the local authority, is to build 39 cottages to replace old outbuildings and for a leisure

Plan for 39 cottages and a leisure complex

complex to adjoin the house, which is set in grounds of 12 acres. It may seem an odd development for a fine estate, but in many cases it is the only way in which such buildings can be saved, and the plan was approved by 13 votes to 2, with one member of the planning committee commenting that approval was "the best way to protect the Green Belt and that is what we are here to do".

Altogether the project will cost £1.5 million, which the owners point out will be money invested locally, will revive the house, will bring a new year-round amenity and will create 50 permanent full-time jobs. The scheme is designed by Peter Luck and Associates and there is an option to purchase a further 55 acres. Savills and Fox and Sons are joint selling agents and are asking for offers in the region of £50,000 to £1 million, a range reflecting the difficulty in valuing such an unusual property. The idea is that the house would become a country club with leisure facilities, while the cottages and flats would be sold to the second home market or retained for self-catering. Time-sharing is another possibility.

Hunting lodge for an earl's family

The same agents are selling The Mill House, Docombe, near Mertonhamstead, Newton Abbot, Devon, which has been extended to provide a house divided between the owners and bed and breakfast use. There is a converted cottage in the 40-acre grounds which brought in more than £5,000 during 1985 mainly from self-catering holidays. Offers of over £150,000 are invited.

Humberts' leisure division is selling Wood Dalling Hall, at Wood Dalling near Norwich, a listed Elizabethan manor house set in 30 acres of parkland which has been converted to a residential holiday complex. The house has a licensed free house and there is planning permission for a leisure complex including an indoor swimming pool. The holiday complex at present has eight units, with a completed permission for four more and outline permission for another

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FOOTBALL: FITNESS DOUBTS THREATEN SIGNIFICANCE OF ENGLAND'S WORLD CUP WARM-UP MATCH AGAINST SOVIET UNION

Hateley heads the list of injured as Robson sees his plans dissolve

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, Tbilisi, Soviet Union

England's plans for the most significant fixture during their World Cup preparations are on the verge of collapse. Injuries, the usual problem, have forced Bobby Robson to delay selection and threaten to reduce the team he picks to play the Soviet Union here this evening to a threadbare patchwork of a side.

Already without Bryan Robson and Peter Reid, England's manager discovered yesterday that he is likely to lose Hateley and Woodcock as well. Neither are Lineker, Hoddle or Bracewell fully fit, but at least they were able to take part in a brief training session. The three Italian exiles, Hateley, Wilkins and Cowans, were not.

Exhausted after their 30-hour journey from Milan, they were advised to rest instead. Their lengthy flight via Frankfurt was further extended by a three-hour delay in Moscow, and although they were relieved to reach their destination, there was no comfort for Robson when they did so.

Hateley immediately revealed that the thigh trouble which has been restricting him for several weeks and which necessitated injections had moved up to his groin. "It is very, very sore," he said, "and I don't know if I can play. It is a long way to come for nothing but there is not much point in going into a match as demand-

ing as this if I'm not able to operate properly."

The memory of the ghostly performance by Dixon when England played Israel in Tel Aviv last month is now haunting Robson. Lineker, who has a similar groin strain to Hateley's though less serious, needs "a big man" alongside him to be at his most effective.

Robson will probably be left with no option but to bring in the inexperienced Beardley, who is anything but "a big man". The absence of Hateley would also diminish the contribution of Waddle to such a degree that it would scarcely be worth playing him. His crosses would be aimed at relative midgets in the middle.

England's attacking potential is further weakened by the ailments which are affecting Hoddle and Bracewell. Both require a couple of days to recover from club games. Robson's side, therefore, can hardly be considered even to be approaching full strength and today's fixture is in danger of becoming a meaningless and possibly painful experience.

The players will train as a complete unit for the first and last time this morning. In contrast, the Soviet Union squad has been together since last Friday. They have lost their two matches so far this year, 1-0 in Mexico (the same result as England's last sum-

mer, incidentally) and 2-0 in Spain.

But their overall record at home is formidable. Since the West Germans won 3-1 here in 1979, they have been beaten only by Czechoslovakia, and that in an Olympic qualifying tie.

The Soviets will be missing their two leading forwards, including Prolasov, who scored one of his side's goals when they won 2-0 at Wembley in 1984. That defeat happened to be England's last at home. Robson remembers how "we then went to South America and turned a little disaster into a little revival".

If England's run of seven games without defeat is to remain unbroken, they will need another "little revival" today. They must puncture a defence which, except against Czechoslovakia, has not conceded a goal at home for seven years. That task would be difficult enough even if their strike form was at its most potent.

SOVIET UNION (probable): R Dasayev, G Morozov, A Bubnov, A Demyanenko, A Chivrasov, S Aleinikov, S Gonsimov, F Sherenkov, S Rodionov, S Dotsorovich, G Kondratyev.

ENGLAND (probable): P Shilton (Southampton), V Andrews (Manchester United), T Butcher (Preston Town), K Sansom (Arsenal), G Hoddle (Tottenham Hotspur), R Wilkins (Aston Villa), S Hogg (Sheff Wed), G Waddle (Tottenham Hotspur), M Hateley (AC Milan), C Waddle (Tottenham Hotspur).



Lineker could be without the strong support he needs

Ireland to find out whether they are a test for the best

By Clive White

The decision of Billy Bingham, the Northern Ireland manager, to pit his team only against the best as they prepare for more equal the world goalkicking World Cup and games this summer is a laudable one. But it could rebound unenviably on the men in green at Windsor Park this evening when the Irish receive Denmark, one of Europe's few realistic hopes for success to the Mexico finals.

Denmark are a team of many talents but few of them defensive ones. They really do not know how to defend with the same accomplishment as the Irish. The last time they visited these shores, just four months ago, they ripped the Republic of Ireland apart by a margin of 4-1 with a demonstration of controlled aggression unequalled possibly anywhere else in the world. The Ulster team's defence, which has gained them such astonishing success over the years, is liable to be disrupted by positional changes as well as an injury which does not bode well when facing unforgiving forwards of the quality of Landrup.

With Nicholl, the West Bromwich Albion full back, out with a hamstring strain, Bingham will be tempted to recall McClelland, now back after injury, to something like the form which blunted the thrust of Karl-Heinz Rummenigge across three hours of duelling with the West Germans a couple of seasons ago. But it will cause an upheaval in the heart of defence with McDoonaid, outstanding in each of his three appearances against Romania, England and France, moving to full back.

Bingham has a few options, one of which might also involve a place for Worthington, also just back in the squad. But all of them involve reshuffling the defence. At least Jennings is unmovable. Tonight the rela-

tion 40-year-old, whom Bingham has persuaded to grace the world stage once more, will equal the world goalkicking record of 115 caps set by Bjorn Nordqvist, of Sweden, between 1963 and 1978. Of course Bingham, who is not averse to springing a few surprises on his players as well as his public, may have something completely different in mind.

The Irish manager has set a deadline for the recovery from injury of three of his players, including his former captain Martin O'Neill, who has been absent for over a year with a knee injury but played his first competitive game on Saturday for Chelsea. Hamilton and Ramsey are the other long term casualties who must prove their fitness to Bingham by April 23 - the date of Northern Ireland's final rehearsal for Mexico, against Morocco, Hamilton, who scored twice in his comeback at the weekend for Oxford United reserves at least looks capable of making it to the starting line in Guadalajara.

Bingham, whose 50th match this will be in charge of the Irish team, is hopeful that the elements of wind and rain will deter Danish enthusiasm on a pitch which is renowned for bogging down the opposition if not the Irish spirit which has seen them come through all but two games without defeat in the last six years.

NORTHERN IRELAND (probable): J. Jennings (Tottenham Hotspur), J. McClelland (Chelsea), J. Hamilton (Oxford United), J. Ramsey (Oxford United), J. Worthington (Oxford United), J. Jennings (Tottenham Hotspur), J. McClelland (Chelsea), J. Hamilton (Oxford United), J. Ramsey (Oxford United), J. Worthington (Oxford United).

Elite move closer to the brink

The threat of a super league being formed has loomed a step nearer after all 22 first division clubs agreed in principle to breaking away from the existing structure unless their demands are met at a crucial meeting next month.

After meeting at the Park, Birmingham, on Monday, the first division chairmen gave their sternest warning yet that they were prepared to go it alone unless their 10-point plan for reform, which would give them greater power and resources, was ratified with the required 75 per cent support at the April 21 summit.

Mr Philip Carter, the Everton chairman, said: "We have said all along that we want to change to be implemented within the present league structure. But unless we get 75 per cent support, we reserve the right to take whatever action we deem necessary."

"We are not happy with the way football is going and we will not be happy if the 10-point plan is rejected."

Mr Carter would not say if such a go-it-alone super league could start in time for next season, but such a scheme would immediately mean a closed shop, leaving Norwich City, the second division leaders, and the other clubs seeking promotion out in the cold.

Mr Martin Edwards, the chairman of Manchester United, underlined the determination of football's elite clubs. "We are not joking on this issue," he said. "If the resolutions are not passed on April 21 we will give serious consideration to going our own way."

Graham Kelly, the League secretary, said: "I don't know anything about this meeting so I cannot comment," he said.

Under-21s looking to Cottee

Tony Cottee leads England's attempt to win a place in the under-21 European Championship semi-finals against Denmark at Maine Road tonight. The West Ham United forward, who at the weekend was voted the Professional Footballers' Association young player of the year, was missing because of club commitments a fortnight ago when England, who are the holders, won 1-0 in the first leg of the quarter-final in Copenhagen.

Tonight's team includes only four England players from that match. Barry Venison, Ian Burtwell, Neil Webb and Paul Rideout. Dave Sexton, the manager, who is attempting to lead England to their third win in the competition under his charge, said: "Although we beat them over there with an under-strength side, I'm not taking anything for granted."

Cottee's Nick Pickering, who scored the goal in Denmark, is ruled out through injury this time, but Sexton's side is full of skill and experience. Danny Wallace and Mark Walters are expected to lead the attack down the flanks, with Paul Rideout and Cottee forming a formidable central strike partnership. Cottee, still only 20, has scored 17 goals for his club this season.

On the bench Sexton has Luton's Mike Newell and Manchester City's Paul Simpson, along with the Arsenal defender, Tony Adams, and the Everton reserve goalkeeper, Bobby Mimms.

ENGLAND UNDER-21: D Sexton (Birmingham), J Wallace (Sheff Wed), P Rideout (Nottingham Forest), P Elliott (Aston Villa), P Walters (Sheff Wed), M Walters (Sheff Wed), M Walters (Aston Villa).

Scots give Dalglish lead role

By David Miller

The sobering thought for Alex Ferguson, Scotland's manager, is he continues the preparation of his team for the World Cup finals with tonight's friendly against Romania at Hampden Park. It is in 14 matches in five previous final competitions. Scotland's only win was in 1978 when the Dutch were not needing to win, and New Zealand four years ago. As England have also discovered over the years, there are no easy matches at the top.

The centre of stage tonight, at least before kick-off, is taken by Kenny Dalglish, who will be presented with a memento by Franz Beckenbauer, the winning captain of West Germany in 1974 and now their manager, to mark his 100th cap. But Dalglish will not be granted the freedom of Querquero in three months time the way he has had the Freedom of Glasgow this week - a generosity which could be called in question by a team without motivation.

Eliminated by Northern Ireland, Romania will not have come to Hampden expecting to

plant trees, so it may be difficult for Ferguson to judge the true value of any performance, though it certainly makes sense to give experience to Goram, his reserve goalkeeper from Oldham who takes over from Leighton.

Most disappointing is the absence of Archibald, who has been present with the squad at Turfberry, but, according to Ferguson, is continuing to have trouble with the thigh injury suffered against Juventus and is likely to be out of action for a further two weeks.

Archibald's tactical value to Barcelona in their march to the European Cup semi-final has been exceptional and it certainly must be questioned whether Dalglish, who tonight partners Sharpe, will still have the appetite for the demanding conditions of Mexico, having spent so much of this season on Liverpool's bench. Certainly, Dalglish's ball control that will be necessary and we may see tonight how much of his touch remains at international level.

SCOTLAND (probable): R Gough (Dundee United), R Gough (Dundee United), R Gough (Dundee United), R Gough (Dundee United), R Gough (Dundee United), R Gough (Dundee United), R Gough (Dundee United), R Gough (Dundee United).

Charlton's chance to harness talent

From Eamon Dunphy, Dublin

Games between the Republic of Ireland and Wales are generally worthy but of no particular interest to anyone other than the principals. Things will be different here this afternoon, for today's meeting marks the introduction to international team management.

Charlton was appointed Irish manager in the most bizarre circumstances five weeks ago. Given only three of the 18 votes cast on the first ballot he was the ultimate beneficiary of a bungled attempt to secure the appointment of Bob Paisley.

However, a month is a long time in Irish football and all that is now forgotten. Much credit for this is due to Charlton himself, whose bluff no-nonsense style appeals to the natives.

In a footballing context his arrival here is equally fascinating. The team he has been charged with leading is talented but brittle, or if you prefer, self-indulgent in the past to turn it on only when the mood was right. Under Eion Hand, who took over from John Giles in 1979, some indifferent results were achieved despite the presence in the squad of players such as Mark Lawman, Ron Whelan, Paul McGrath, David O'Leary, Frank Stapleton and Liam Brady.

Charlton has already declared that reputation will mean nothing when he selects his team, an observation that may be of particular interest to two of the side's most celebrated players, Brady and Stapleton, both of whom have performed without distinction when wearing the Green to recent years.

Both have been selected this

afternoon from a squad depleted by injuries, notably to Mark Lawman and Kevin Sheedy. Charlton's most significant innovation concerns Brady, whose midfield role has been redefined to allow him more scope for attacking. Manchester United's Paul McGrath, whom Charlton described yesterday as "the best player in Britain", will play alongside Brady in midfield. Oxford United's (born-again Irishman) Ray Houghton and John Aldridge are, both, given first caps.

Wales will take the field without Mark Hughes, having already lost Eddie Niedzwiecki, Neil Slater, Kevin Ratcliffe, Pat van der Hauwe, and Mark Aldred. Joey Jones wins his 69th cap, breaking the Welsh record set by Ivor Allchurch.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: G. P. O'Neil (Dundee United), J. Hamilton (Oxford United), J. Worthington (Oxford United), J. Ramsey (Oxford United), J. Jennings (Tottenham Hotspur), J. McClelland (Chelsea), J. Hamilton (Oxford United), J. Ramsey (Oxford United), J. Worthington (Oxford United).

Tighter medical control sought by Europeans

STRASBOURG, France (AP) - A report to be published by a committee of the European Council has called for tighter medical control of boxing, which is increased to a form of "gladiatorial violence".

The report, which was obtained from sources on the sub-committee on youth and sport, said that unless medical supervision is increased voluntarily, European governments should step in and impose controls.

The report, written by West German deputy Gunther Muller, said that boxing was publicly condoned "suicide or self-mutilation".

Muller, a Christian Democrat, said "professional boxing in particular implies accepting brutality as one of its major attractions."

The report estimated that about 1,000 boxing injuries are reported each year in Europe. The number of boxing casualties may be low compared with other dangerous sports, it said, "but it is 1,000 too many in a sport where damage is intentional."

On March 17 Steve Watt, the Scottish welterweight champion died three days after collapsing in the ring during a non-title bout in London. Watt was walking back to his corner after the referee had stopped the bout in his opponent's favour, when he dropped to the canvas. Despite an operation to remove a blood clot from his brain, he sank into a coma and never regained consciousness.

Muller's report, together with recommendations, will be submitted to the April session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

It endorsed the recommendations of several national and world medical associations calling either for a ban on boxing or

Cardwell back to vie for Devoy's title

By Colin McQuillan

Vicki Cardwell, an Australian who dominated the women's scene until she retired two years ago to start a family, has returned to challenge Susan Devoy, the world champion, in the Hi-Tec British Open in the Hi-Tec British Open in the Netherlands last Sunday, have no need to prove anything to the selectors and have been excused these trials, which she will miss.

Cardwell's sister, Jane Barle-Wilson, a member of the 1984 Olympic team, has been less fortunate. Her horse, Pinocchio, endured a rough passage back from the Hook of Holland to Harwich after competing in the Netherlands last weekend but she is still expected to take part. Pinocchio, now 18, only arrived back at 4.0 am yesterday.

The last time they met, during the 1983 world championships in Perth, Mrs Cardwell beat Miss Devoy and went on to win the world final from Rhona Thorpe.

She retired after winning her fourth successive British Open title in 1983 but has returned with her eight-month-old son, Joshua, determined to add a fifth. "It will be an uphill battle but the British Open is a complex tournament often won by the most adaptable player," she says.

A growing awareness of Miss Devoy's astute exploitation of her world ranking may have motivated the return of Mrs Cardwell. Apart from significantly increased prize money (£3,500 will go to the women's champion at Wembley next month), Miss Devoy carries a new Hi-Tec shoe contract worth around £25,000 over the next three years, and in New Zealand earns several times that amount from insurance, racket, clothing and car deals.

Bartle misses trials

By Jeany MacArthur

Christopher Bartle, Britain's top-rated show jumper, has missed two selection trials which start today at Stoneleigh in Warwickshire. Bartle and his horse Wily Trout, whose numerous successes over the past two years included second place in the Nashua World Cup in the Netherlands last Sunday, have no need to prove anything to the selectors and have been excused these trials, which she will miss.

Bartle's sister, Jane Barle-Wilson, a member of the 1984 Olympic team, has been less fortunate. Her horse, Pinocchio, endured a rough passage back from the Hook of Holland to Harwich after competing in the Netherlands last weekend but she is still expected to take part. Pinocchio, now 18, only arrived back at 4.0 am yesterday.

Another two clubs want super league

Two more clubs, Oldham and Leigh, have joined the ten who are planning to form a new super league because they are dissatisfied with the way the game is run and the distribution of television, sponsorship and other monies (writes Keith Macklin).

The clubs have had another meeting at which the advice of David Oxley, the Rugby League secretary-general, was sought on how to form a super league within the constitution. The club said: "These objectives are now being pursued urgently."

The league officials have reservations about a super league and are still hoping to answer the clubs' grievances by restructuring the game.

Pakistan look poised to win series

Colombo - (Reuters) - Sri Lanka, whose batting has let them down in the series, need a much-improved performance today when the deciding third and final Test against Pakistan resumes. Pakistan, who have the initiative in a strong position to win the series, which is tied 1-1.

Rameez Raja, in only his sixth Test, launched Pakistan's revival with a magnificent innings of 122, lifting the team's side to a first innings lead of 37. Sri Lanka then slumped to 26 for two in their second innings. Wasim Akram and Imran Khan, the best bowlers, removing both their opponents, and they resume today still 13 runs behind.

Rowing: Striking a nice balance for the boat race

Oxford, averaging 14 stone and seven eighths of a pound, weighed in almost six pounds heavier than Cambridge at the official weigh-in yesterday. They will, on Saturday, be the third heaviest crew ever to contest the Boat Race. In the first race at Henley in 1829 Oxford averaged 15 1/2 lbs (Cambridge failed to announce their weights). The heaviest man will be Bruce Philip, the Oxford President, who, in the past, also rowed for Cambridge. He tipped the scales yesterday at 15st 9lb.

The lightest oarsmen will be Clarke and Wilson, the Cambridge bow pair, who each weighed in at 12st 9lb. Carole Burton, the Cambridge coxswain, displayed a very trim 6st 9lb. 17lb lighter than Andy Green, of Oxford, which will be useful if she steers the right course.

The heaviest man to confront the scales yesterday was Gavin Stewart, of Isis, who towers at 6ft 8in and weighed in at 16st 6lb which, if he had made the Oxford crew, would have been a record 1lb heavier than Steve Plunkett, Oxford's Ulsterman, in 1976.

All things being equal the heavier crew should beat the lighter. But, in this 132nd Boat Race, there are far more parameters to be taken into account. It is interesting to note that last Saturday in the Head Race from Morlake to Putney the British lightweight Nautilus crew finished, astonishingly, in second and fourth places, well ahead of hundreds of heavyweight crews including Italy's Campania with

Oxford hope to throw weight around

seven Olympic oarsmen on board.

Cambridge's reported unintentional "record" on Monday from Hammersmith Bridge to the University Stone was not a record. Closer scrutiny of the record book revealed that Oxford in 1982 with a time of 6min 46sec were nine seconds faster. Cambridge's main offering yesterday morning was a sustained row lasting 20 minutes on the ebb from Chiswick.

Ladbrokes, the Boat Race sponsors, have made the crews even sterner, and have invited a Cambridge undergraduate to present the Ladbrokes Trophy to the winner of the race. The odds are 5-6 for both crews.

TODAY'S OUTRAGE: Oxford 9.00 and 1.30 Cambridge 10.30 and 5.00



David Miller

Change, imminent and long-term, is about to take place in the administration of British sport. I understand that the British Olympic Association has accepted the resignation of Dick Palmer, the general secretary, while yesterday's details of the Sports Council financing of the Central Council for Physical Recreation and, in all probability, today's report of the House of Commons Select Committee, suggest a doubtful future for the CCPR.

Dick Palmer is leaving a position which he has filled with distinction to become the new full-time director of the Olympic Solidarity Fund in succession to Anselmo Lopez, a retired Spanish businessman who has been handling the Olympic charity on a part-time basis.

The BOA Council will have to be prepared to pay substantially to find a comparable replacement, someone with a combination of energy, a clear-sighted understanding of the complex bureaucratic and political world of international sport, and unlimited tact.

He will need to be able to synchronize with the forthright Charles Palmer, the BOA chairman. The two Palmers have been at pains to emphasize that there has been no conflict between them which might have encouraged the general secretary's departure.

Detached and direct

Charles Palmer is one of few administrators capable of talking detached, objective views, though his admirably direct manner does not always make for an easy and narrow division between authoritative and authoritarian.

Self-determination by the CCPR will be seriously undercut, it seems to me, by the conditional terms of the Sports Council's latest grant approval of some £600,000, offered under the contractual agreement of 1972.

The continuing financing by the Sports Council is dependent on the CCPR providing a programme budget which relates expenditure to achievement; joining the Sports Council in an organisation audit to illustrate the extent of value for money achieved; and accepting a detailed management audit by the Sports Council's chief internal auditors.

Although this decision was taken by the Sports Council on Monday prior to seeing the Select Committee's report which is embargoed until today - which I have not yet seen - it will be surprising if the report does not echo, or even exceed, the Sports Council's implied restriction of the CCPR's activities.

The long-running conflict between the CCPR, who are championed by Prince Philip, and the Sports Council, whose affairs are increasingly, and occasionally disturbingly, dominated by Department of the Environment direction from the Minister of Sport, came to a head last year with threatened litigation between Peter Lawson, the CCPR secretary, and Neil Macfarlane, the then minister.

Anomaly of co-existence

The co-existence of the two bodies does, of course, constitute an anomaly, though the CCPR provides a legitimate, if largely disorganized, independent voice of individual sports governing bodies.

Two weeks ago, before the Budget, Peter Lawson vainly sent a five-point request to his namesake, the Chancellor, requesting relaxation of the football betting tax in order to aid league clubs; of VAT on sports club entry fees in line with EEC policy; of local rates on youth sports organisations; of tax allowances on sports sponsorship; and of corporation tax on non-profit making sports bodies (such as the BOA Appeal).

The present government, however, remains adamant that public money should be limited, that sport, like everything else, should be self-sufficient, and that any public investment should be maximized under the value for money policy.

John Wheatley, the Sports Council's director, insisted yesterday that they are not making any short-term financial decision on long-term projects. Yet the danger is that, quite apart from the CCPR, such field centres as Coves (sailing) and Plas-y-Brenan (mountain activities), whose letsize value, in the community it is almost impossible to measure, might become increasingly threatened.



A spray of Dark Blue: Oxford in practice for the Boat Race on the Tideway yesterday. Their afternoon outing produced an easy win over the Thames eight (Photograph: Tommy Hindley). Boat Race news, page 30

England's reputation on the line

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Bridgetown

West Indies duly won the third Test match, sponsored by Cable & Wireless, by an innings and 30 runs here yesterday, their eighth overwhelming victory in a row against England. That England's last four wickets lasted until just before lunch, and kept their many loyal supporters out of the sea until the afternoon, was because of some light rain and a determined little partnership between Downton and Embury. "But there is still," said Tony Brown, the England manager, "an awful lot to play for - and we can still yet square the one-day series."

As in Trinidad during the second Test match, no play would have been possible on the rest day here because of rain. Though still overcast yesterday it was mostly dry. By the time of the first short stoppage, after 20 minutes, Edmondson had been leg before to Garner, moving into his stumps to try and hit a full length ball to leg. Before the next even briefer interruption Downton and Embury added 35 with just enough certainty to make England, and especially Botham, rue all the more that dismal batting in the last hour of Sunday.

With victory assured the West Indians, if not consciously taking things easily, looked a little languid. When Marshall and Garner, who bowled the first 16 overs together, produced anything special, Downton and Embury played and missed. Mostly, though, they batted very decently, putting on 50 for the eighth wicket before Holding replaced Garner.

At once Holding had Downton well caught at the wicket off a nasty lifting outswinger, and Foster, second ball, taken high up at second slip. Ten minutes later, with just over 10 hours of the match left, West Indies had won and retained the Wisden Trophy, the last word being as conclusive as the margin of their victory, the cartwheeling removal of Thomas's middle stump.

Only once before has one country lost eight successive Test matches to another. That was when Australia, having made a clean sweep of their series against England in Australia in 1920-21, won the first three Tests of 1921 in England. England stopped the rot by drawing the fourth Test at Old Trafford, having been beaten eight times in seven months.

If the Great War, and the dreadful losses and deprivation which came with it, were the main cause of England's slow rehabilitation then, the reason now is just as clear cut. If the fast bowlers of the two sides, in England to 1984 and out here this winter, had changed sides, the results would have been reversed. They might have been less conclusive, but England would undoubtedly have won.

Over the course of recent history a pair of top-class fast bowlers (let alone four of them, bowling as short as they will, with more than 700 Test wickets between them) have invariably been enough to win a Test series. Gregory and McDonald, Larwood and Voce, Miller and Lindwall, Trueman and Statham, Tyson and Statham, Lillee and Thomson, Procter and Pollock, Hall and Griffith... the list is very long.

The time comes when the side without the fast bowling starts to give of nothing like its best. On the present tour this happened straightaway when the first Test match was played on a dangerous pitch in Kingston. Since then England have not had the confidence to take the chances offered them. The break of six days between the Test just finished and the fourth and final one-day international, to be played in Trinidad next Monday, was planned originally to allow the England team a well-deserved rest. In the event they have their wounds to lick. But whether Brown and the vice-captain, Gattling, one as the manager and the other because he has the personality required, can do it, is another matter.

There is little wrong in my opinion with the attitude of the others, but Gattling's determination comes through. "As chairman of the England selectors and a spectator here in Bridgetown, Willis has conveyed to Messrs Brown, Willis and Gower that the next two Test matches must be seen as vital, not only for England's cricketing name but for each player in the context of the next 12 months. "The players must grit their teeth and fight," he says. He wonders, I think, how whole-hearted one or two of them have been and says that no-one on the side, from the senior to the most junior, can take for granted a place in the England side this coming summer.

CRICKET

Wessels finds himself left out in the cold

From Paul Martin, Johannesburg
A cold shoulder awaits South African cricket's prodigal son, Kepler Wessels, who is returning to the country of his birth from his adopted Australia amidst fierce controversy. Though he will be eagerly welcomed in Currie Cup provincial cricket, he will be excluded from either rebel international team in next season's repeat Australian-Springbok "Test" series.

Kim Hughes, the Australian rebel captain, says Wessels had "made his bed in the official Test camp and that's where he must lie. Hughes contends that Wessels had been helping rebel Australian players for the rebel tour during the World Cup competition in England - only to renege at the last moment. Wessels, ironically, has now burnt his boats with Australian Test cricket, piqued at not having been offered the most lucrative type of contract.

Nor is Wessels to be included in the Springbok team. "He cannot change horses mid-stream," said Dr Ali Bacher, South Africa's chief rebel tour organizer.

HANDBALL

No escape route for Stafford

By Paul Harrison
The unexpected success of the handball inmates of Stafford Prison has ruined a showpiece cup final. The M & B Midlands Cup final was due to be played on May 14 at the Granby Halls in Leicester, but since Stafford Olympic are not allowed to play away matches - for obvious reasons - that match is now off.

The Midlands Handball Association plan instead to stage a challenge match on that date at Granby Halls, between the other finalists, Olympia Cannock and Leicester 73, who were beaten 14-10 by Stafford Olympic at the prison on Sunday.

It is hoped that the real final can be played on May 18, at a sports hall near the prison. Negotiations are going on between prison and MHA officials to that end.

The MHA are against playing the final in the prison, not least because the sloping pitch gives a considerable advantage to the home side. The problem for the prison authorities is to find enough players who would be allowed out to play: a final in which Stafford could only field a few regulars could soon degenerate into farce.

As it was, on Sunday some of Stafford's players had never played before. Stafford ended the season midway in the Midlands League while Leicester reached the last four of the play-offs for the British championship.

BOXING: FORMER WORLD LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION TURNS ANALYST

Conteh to lend support to Andries

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

John Conteh has been called in to help Dennis Andries, the British light-heavyweight champion, prepare for his world title bout against J B Williamson, of the United States, on April 30, at Picketts Lock, Edmonton, London. But the former world light-heavyweight champion will not be putting on gloves and getting into the ring for sparring at The Thomas A Beckett gym. His job will be to analyse Williamson's style and instil self-belief in the 33-year-old Andries for when the going gets tough in the contest.

Whereas, according to Greg Steene, Andries's manager, Andries, who has not been beaten for four years, sees Williamson as just another opponent, Conteh believes that there could be times in the contest when Andries might need more mental than physical strength to keep pushing.

Dennis has the capability but he has had a hard time getting the spar. And when you are fighting for a world title you can find yourself in unknown areas," Conteh said. "Like Mugabi against Hagler, after six rounds, Dennis could find himself being dragged into areas he has never known. I shall try to give him the confidence to fight more against himself than Williamson at such times and keep pushing."

Andries was delighted yesterday to have Conteh on his side. Williamson, a former United States marine who says his initials stand for "Just Bad", is reputed to be a light puncher but a good boxer. Only eight of his 22 wins in 23 bouts have come from knockouts against Andries's 16 knockouts in 24 contests. But, according to those who have seen Williamson in action, the former national middleweight Golden Gloves champion is difficult to hit cleanly and can put his shots together well. That is why a puncher like Andries, who depends on landing the big one, will need all the mental lift he can get from Conteh.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Connors delays

New York (Reuters) - Jimmy Connors, suspended for 10 weeks and fined \$20,000 for walking off court during a match, said yesterday he would consult his lawyer before deciding what action to take.

Connors, who has 30 days to appeal against the suspension by the International Professional Tennis Council, said: "I will review the decision with my attorney. At this point I can only concentrate on my tennis."

The American, irate over a line call against him, walked out during the fifth set of the final of a tournament in Boca Raton, Florida, last month against Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia. He was immediately fined \$5,000 by a MPTC official.

Ice spectacle

Debi Thomas, the 19-year-old American who won the women's world ice skating title in Geneva last week, is in an impressive parade for the St Ivel gala of world champions at Richmond on April 1.

Miss Thomas is joined by her compatriot Tiffany Chin, the bronze medalist and former world champion and Olympic gold medal winner, Katerina Witt of East Germany.

Colombia 'yes'

Colombia have become the first South American country to accept an invitation to compete in the National Dairy Council Milk Race from May 25 to June 7.

The Colombian cyclists will travel to Britain after competing in the Warsaw-Berlin-Prague Peace Race. The 1,150-mile Milk Race will start in Birmingham and finish at London's Waterloo Bridge.

Race havoc

Frank Pong's Maiden Hong Kong edged ahead of arch rival 40-foot sloop, Bimblegumbie, skippered by Australian Keith Jacobs, as communication problems caused havoc in the Silk Cut South China Sea Race. Electric storms and force six winds which forced three boats to retire continued to pose problems.

Postponed

Last night's Slalom Lager Championship Rugby League game between Bradford Northern and Warrington was postponed until tonight because the Odsal pitch was waterlogged.

Pelen quits

Paris (Reuters) - Perrine Pelen, France's top woman skier of the last decade, has confirmed she is retiring from international competition, the French Skiing Federation said yesterday.

Cash drive

Britain's young assistant professional golfers have been given a huge boost for their championship later this year. The car manufacturers, Peugeot Talbot, have stepped in to provide £23,000 in prizemoney for the assistant professionals' championship, making it the richest in its 37-year history.

Charity bouts

Two amateur boxing teams from England and Belgium meet in a charity tournament in London today in an attempt to raise £10,000 for charity. A south-east London team and a Brussels select meet in a 10-bout contest at the social club of Alders of Croydon, with money raised going towards the retail trade charity's linen and woollen drapers' cottages.

Full strength

Nottingham will be at full strength for their delayed John Player Cup Rugby Union quarter-final with Wasps on Good Friday, if their wing, Chris Oti, comes safely through a game for English Students against Welsh Students at Cambridge today.

SWIMMING

Dr Jones aims for two more titles

Alyson Jones, the 29-year-old doctor from Harrow, takes to the water again this week-end for a spell of competition which could decide whether she will mount a serious attempt for a place in the Commonwealth Games squad for Edinburgh.

Dr Jones will be the oldest competitor taking part in the Hewlett-Packard national short course championships at Barnet Copthall, Hendon, from Good Friday to Easter Monday. She will be aiming to add the 50 and 100 metres freestyle titles to the long course versions she won in Leeds in August, her first national titles.

At Barnet she will be facing Nicole Bates of Norwich, who was only a year old when Dr Jones won a bronze medal in England's freestyle relay team in the 1974 Commonwealth Games in Christchurch.

Nine swimmers who were victorious at last year's championships are expected to defend their titles, including the double Olympic medal winner, Sarah Hardcastle. As part of her busy programme she defends her 400 and 800 metres freestyle, and 400 metres medley titles, as does the European breaststroke champion, Adrian Moorhouse (100 and 200).



Smith: voice of reason

their football matches but the difference is that we alone export our boogymen. I am disturbed that one or two influential people in English football are pressing for the ban to be lifted.

"They are obsessed with the short term considerations. An early return would inflict irreparable damage on our game in the long term. If our clubs were to play in Europe next season, there would certainly be trouble and we would be thrown out for ever."

"While we have reduced boogymen in our grounds to a minimum, there is still awful trouble in the streets away from the heavy policing, a lot of which is being kept quiet. We at Liverpool are among those proving that it is possible to succeed financially without European revenue. Our gates are good. Look at the 58,000 against Oxford."

"We are always conscious at Anfield of balancing our budget. It is a good discipline for the clubs to have to get their finances in order. Then, when we do return to Europe, the extra income will come as a bonus which we can invest for the good of the game's future to improve facilities for example."

"There is no chance of the ban being lifted for a while unless those influential figures in English football persist in their campaign to get us back in. Even then they would probably not succeed. I would hope that they would not. There are some elements in Europe who might want us back purely on financial grounds. That is wrong."

"I would hope that even if the opportunity was offered, we would be responsible and decline. That would be honourable and would restore a little credit to English football. Don't misunderstand me. I love European football and, at Liverpool, we have a wonderful tradition in that respect."

"But we should not even consider the ban being lifted in less than three years. I'm speaking as chairman of Liverpool and of the Sports Council. I'm concerned not only with football's image and its future but also with the good name and reputation of our country."

England preview, page 38.

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